AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY

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Vol 10 No 388 — WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1989

• POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 406, BROADWAY, NSW 2007
• TELEPHONE: (02) 660 2033 • FAX: (02) 692 0649 • TELEX: AA22141

Registered by Australia Post — Publication No NBQ5726

FOOTBALL AT CHRISTMAS — NSL PLANS THE ACTION

HO! HO! HO!

Be prepared for National Soccer League football, Australian style.

Play won't stop in the summer season, to *commence on November 5.*

Not for Christmas — or anything else.

Bam . . . it will run right through the Christmas festivities period.

So, players, forget about that extra serving of Christmas pud.

NSL general manager *Peter Russell said:* "Plans for Christmas week are for a split round over Saturday, Monday and Tuesday."

That translates into Saturday December 23, Monday 25th "CHRISTMAS DAY" and Tuesday 26th Boxing Day.

However the draw has not been completed, and executive input could lead to a revision to accommodate just a one week stand-down for Christmas itself.

Meanwhile for this year neither Parramatta Stadium or Sydney Football Stadium will be available for Top Five Games in Sydney.

***Apart, that is, from* Grand Final Day on August 13, if it falls Sydney's way as expected.**

Olympic Park, Melbourne, is available for all match requirements there, although the surface remains spongy.

The NSL's awards night has been set for Monday August 21 at the Hyatt on Collins in Melbourne.

Looking to the 1989 season's end, September 1 has been set as the date by which leading State League clubs are requested to advise if they want to play in the National League, should they ultimately qualify for a place.

Finality is sought by October 1, so that the two clubs can be immediately drafted into the 1989/90 season draw.

SAM PAPASAVAS

Floodlighting remains a problem, especially in Melbourne.

Olympic Park is right, and Somers Street is proceeding, but Schintler Reserve is now out of NSL action.

Mr Russell said: "The position at Middle Park is peculiar.

"Under council regulations Middle Park is a public reserve.

"Gates of the ground need to be left open during the week.

"There is difficulty with having floodlighting erected there."

Heidelberg and Melbourne City are out of action until the Victorian League begins in *six or seven* months' time.

But under present plans the two demoted teams at the end of the 1989/90 season are even worse off.

Unbelievably they will finish in the NSL in May 1990, and won't get a revenue-earning State League *game for some eight* months.

Surely not even soccer administrators could let that stand, *without the necessary* long awaited widespread changes to the system.

— KEITH GILMOUR

NSL THRILLERS

BY LOU GAUTIER

IF the dramatic finale to the minor premiership is any indication, fans can look forward to a magnificent Top Five National League play-off series.

The finals kick off on Sunday with St George playing Sydney Olympic at their shared home ground of St George Stadium in the preliminary semi-final, and Melbourne Croatia clashing with Preston Makedonia in the elimination semi-final at Melbourne's Olympic Park.

On Sunday week, the winner of the St George-Olympic match will play minor premiers Marconi in the major semi-final while the loser plays the winner of the Croatia v Preston tie in another elimination affair.

Little separates the four clubs involved in this weekend's semi-finals and both results are wide open.

Not surprisingly, the sudden death nature of the clash makes the Olympic Park game the more exciting of the two as neither Melbourne Croatia nor Preston has the luxury of two bites at the cherry.

Player for player, Croatia may have the upper hand, and in Zeljko Adzic they have a sure-fire match-winner.

Preston will be looking for a big game from John Markovski and hoping Warren Spink can get back amongst the goals.

In the league this season, Preston beat Croatia 3-0 in the first round but in Round 2 Croatia turned the tables with a 1-0 win.

I will stick my neck out and tip a Croatia win, but don't bet the house on it.

Sydney Olympic, who will have played midweek against Apia in an NSL Cup semi-final, will go into Sunday's match undefeated in their last seven minor premiership games.

After a hesitant start to the season, Olympic have hit form at the right time and they, somehow, irresistibly remind me of Marconi at the same stage last year when they swept the opposition aside to win the title after finishing fourth in the league.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

MARCONI — NSL MINOR PREMIERS

They came home six points clear of their nearest rivals. Rear: l to r: Peter Katholos, Fred de Jong, Robert Wheatley, Gerry Gomez, Bobby Catlin, Steve Calderan, Zlatko Nastevski. Front: Jean-Paul de Marigny, David Lowe, Tom McCulloch, Ian Gray, Matteo Colucci, Vince Colagiuri. — Pic: HECTOR CARRASCO.

BIGGEST SELLING SOCCER NEWSPAPER RIGHT ACROSS AUSTRALIA

PICK A PLAYER FROM THIS GROUP!

Those were the days, my friends! The first Young Socceroos snapped in camp in 1979 with coaches Rudi Gutendorf (right) and 'Uncle Joe' Vlasits.

The picture was loaned to ASW by Mrs Vlasits, widow of the late revered Joe Vlasits. The caption from Rudi to Joe in German translates to "My dear friend: a big thank you for your whole-hearted help with our Australian youngsters — Rudi."

The players pictured are mainly well-known across the Australian soccer scene today.

They are: Greg Woodhouse, Danny Moulis, Mike Milovanovic, Theo Selemidis, George Christopoulos, Steve Hogg, Craig Hall, Alan Davidson, Eddie Krncevic, Peter Raskopoulos, Peter Tredinnick, Ian Rowden, Ian Hunter, Graham Jennings, John Spanos, Peter Wilson, Mike Boogaard, Paul Kay.

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SOCCER
WEEKLY

P.O. BOX 406 BROADWAY NSW 2007
★ Tel: (02) 660 2033 ★ FAX: (02) 692 0649
★ TELEX: AA22141
Published every Wednesday by Foreign Language Publications Pty. Ltd.
(A company incorporated in New South Wales)
1-9 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe NSW 2037.

DISTRIBUTION:
NSW/ACT: Mirror Australian Telegraph Publications, 2 Holt St, Sydney 2010. Tel (02) 288 3000. **VICTORIA:** Southdown Press, 32 Walsh St, West Melbourne 3003. Tel (03) 320 7000. **QUEENSLAND:** Queensland Newspapers, Campbell St, Bowen Hills 4006. Tel: (07) 252 6011. **SOUTH AUSTRALIA:** Advertiser Newspapers Ltd Waymouth St, Adelaide 5000 Tel: (08) 218 9329. **WESTERN AUSTRALIA:** West Australian Newspapers Ltd, 125 St George Terrace, Perth 6000. Tel (09) 321 0161.

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Telephone: (03) 416 1255
FAX: (03) 419 2870
Recommended and maximum price only $1.60.
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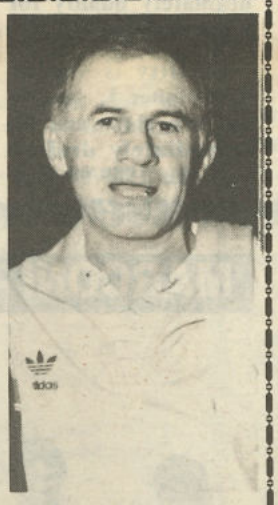
Frank Arok holds reins



NATIONAL coach Frank Arok has received a vote of confidence from the ASF commissioners.

Not that it was ever going to happen any other way, as Arok has his contract firm to July 31, 1990.

But when the new era comes in, Arok would have to leave his beloved St George and go fulltime to continue.

The ASF wants two fulltime coaches to cover the four national teams — senior, under 23 (Olympic), under 20 and under 17.

When the present or a new national coach is selected next May, he will become part of the process to chose his assistant.

After this happens other coaches will be brought into play to assist with skills, goalkeeping and so on.

This situation probably signals the end for highly regarded Les Scheinflug, who has been part of the national scene since he played in Australia's first ever World Cup campaign 24 years ago, and junior coach Vic Dalgleish as well.

Arok now has to recommend his assistant, and Gary Cole is a possibility.

A former schoolteacher, Socceroo and currently AIS assistant coach, he could be the 'hands-on' member of the partnership.

Bright as he is and up to date on coaching methods, Cole most emphatically needs coaching experience at NSL level to round off his abilities.

For Eddie Thomson the future lies firstly in club coaching and then most likely as national supremo.

The commissioners' scheme could provide a better input of standard methods throughout the grades.

Whilst ASF chairman Ian Brusasco points out that Australia has few immediate national commitments, some way must be found to get all four teams moving.

For example the under 17 and 20 grades are on a biennial cycle and need immediate attention in the second half of 1989 for 1990/91 competitions.

— KEITH GILMOUR

FIFA decision imminent

BY KEITH GILMOUR

WHETHER Australia hosts the 1991 World Youth Cup will become known early next week.

The matter comes before the FIFA executive in Zurich at its meeting of 25/26 July.

ASF general secretary Alan Vessey believes Australia has up to a 50/50 chance of staging the prestige event.

"FIFA secretary Joseph Blatter was naturally non committal when I spoke to him in Bangkok, but I have the feeling that it remains between Australia, Nigeria and Portugal.

"There is a belief that difficulties exist with Nigeria and that a European country is unlikely to be selected," he said.

The series would be amongst other things an ideal way to helping to fill the winter gap caused by the advent of summer NSL soccer.

Sir Arthur George will attend the FIFA meeting, and has been given a brief to promote Australia's case.

But Australia must face the fact that Portugal as holders, placed right in Europe and with a great football history, have a very bright chance of success.

ASF chairman Ian Brusasco said: "We are very confident. In fact, I am as bold as to say that we are an even money bet.

"Australia needs this series, and we will continue to press very hard to get it."

An announcement will be made on July 31 of two teams to play a series of matches in Australia.

Speculation is rife over the names of the teams, but the Soviets are a distinct possibility for the first slot in November, as well as Denmark or Sweden.

The second tour is also to be threaded in for January to avoid a clash with NSL fixtures.

It seems from Mr Brusasco's statements following last week's inaugural meeting of the new ASF commissioners that a genuine attempt has been made to start putting Australian soccer on a sound footing.

But it was a case of "hands off the NSL" until the commissioners have the chance to examine its future structure.

"We don't want to disrupt the NSL in any way . . . the present promotion and relegation applies," said Brusasco.

Following on, he made it clear that the future of cities such as Brisbane Newcastle, Canberra Hobart and Perth will be gradually brought into play at last.

Western Australia and Queensland have both already documented cases, and Northern NSW has sought NSW support for a Newcastle move.

Mr Brusasco believes that State of Origin football has a big future, especially when "there is a proper NSL."

The poorly supported and financially negative PAOK of Greece tour should not be repeated.

"We must plan a long way ahead to help the national team in future, but must remain flexible if say Liverpool became available.

"We will work in with the NSL but it was not appropriate to stop the PAOK tour even though they themselves were complaining about the backlog of games," Brusasco said.

The "join Asia" push is likely to come from the direction of FIFA. The ASF sees some advantages stemming from Oceania's existence in World Cup matters.

But at the end of the day Australia may well have no option but to hop into the stronger Asian camp. It will have pluses as well as any minuses.

The new commissioners — Brusasco, John Constantine, Ron Archer, Vito Cilauro and Sam Papasavas — addressed their first task of assuring themselves that they had the requisite power under the Companies Code to run the show.

That came up affirmative, with matters of principle to be referred to the full executive.

Making money — or avoiding losses — for internationals at that time of year will test the commissioners' abilities.

An anti-doping policy was approved and a medical commission of doctors, physiotherapists and management is to be set up.

The World Cup assessment will have to be completed at the August 23 meeting, when further planning of the entire code will be discussed.

All sections of the code will be asked to pay a capitation fee to assist finance the four national teams.

Coaches, referees, players and juniors will all be included, but first a working paper will be prepared for general circulation. It would not surprise if under 12s are brought in at 50c each and above that at $1.

However, the amateurs and juniors may not want to part with their hard-earned cash.

As pointed out by Sydney Daily Mirror writer Tom Anderson, there would be no need to levy $500,000 if the NSL returned to much more localised structure or structures.

The tremendous saving on air fares and accommodation would strike out the need for the imposition on players who are well levied already for fees and insurance.

The securing of a National Director of Coaching is dependent upon its inclusion in the Department of Sport allocations.

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Arguments rage over Zlatko's rights to scoring records

FRANK SCICLUNA PRESENTS TOPSCORING PROS AND CONS

A large degree of uncertainty is surrounding the position of Marconi sharpshooter Zlatko Nastevski, as he faces the possibility of setting up a new NSL record for most goals scored in one season.

When this was written just one game remained in the home and away 26 match season and Nastevski had been on target 20 times, leaving him three short of John Kosmina's all time record of 23 set in 1982.

The league that year was made up of 16 teams which gave 'Kossie' 30 matches in which to bring up his tally.

Nastevski's assault on the record therefore appears to hinge on whether any semi-final goals are taken into consideration.

This is where all the confusion arises.

Until 1987, when the championship was decided on first past the post, there was never any doubt on the matter.

Now, however, with the title going to the grand final winner, a strong argument exists for semi-final goals to be included in the overall tally — as they were in the regionalised league set-up of 1984/85/86.

If they're not, we will have the ludicrous possibility of a championship-winning goal in the grand final not taken into account.

Opinions differ quite sharply on the correct interpretation.

ASW's much respected Lou Gautier contends that "only goals scored in regular home and away matches, when all teams play an equal number of matches, should count".

ZLATKO NASTEVSKI: failed to equal John Kosmina's 1982 goal tally

Marconi secretary Keith Charles supports Gautier's argument stating "a player may be overhauled for the award by his team's failure to make the top five playoffs.

"Anyway, the NSL rules states quite clearly that semi-final goals do not count."

Well, assuming that such a rule exists, the league is contradicting itself.

The NSL Year Book for season 1985 gives the leading scorer award to Charlie Egan with 21 goals.

It also recorded that three of them were scored in South Melbourne's semi-final defeat on penalties by Preston!

If semi-final goals counted then, why not now when the championship is again decided on play-offs.

I take the argument a step further.

Every goal scored in the World Cup Finals goes twoards deciding the leading scorer award, not just the ones scored during the first phase — when all teams play an equal number of matches.

If Lou Gautier's argument is followed, Paolo Rossi would not have won it in 1982, nor Gary Lineker in 1986.

Two people who have no doubt at all on the matter are perhaps the only two statisticians in Australia who have kept a painstaking detailed record of every match played since the inception of the National League.

ABC soccer commentator Mike Hill did not hesitate when asked his opinion. "To me the whole thing is quite simple," he answered.

"When the championship is decided on playoffs as it was in 1984/85/86 and last year, every goal up to and including the grand final has to be included in the final tally."

Melbourne Sun Pictorial journalist and ASW correspondent Peter Desira totally backs up Hill's argument.

JOHN KOSMINA

"You cannot possibly exclude goals which could be decisive in winning the championship," was his simple response.

"Whether goals are scored in equal number of matches or not doesn't come into it.

"After all, Kosmina got his in a 30-match season compared to this year's 26."

So where does all that leave Nastevski? Is he still in with a chance to break the record?

No one seems to be quite sure but my view is clearly that if logic prevails, we may well see a new record being set this year.

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Barrett ready for Roos

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

DAVE BARRETT, Sydney Olympic's powerful right full-back, is ready to come into the Australian team to take over from Sydney Croatia's reliable Wally Savor.

Although only 20 years old, Barrett has developed rapidly.

As well as being a first class defender, he has also become a powerful attacker, raiding up the touchline and slinging in perfect crosses for his strikers.

Australia's World Cup coach, Frank Arok, said last night: "Barrett can no longer be ignored. He must be treated seriously sooner or later to come into the Australian squad. He is strong, a thinker and fast."

When I spoke to Dave at training during the week he told me: "I think my game has improved since coming to Sydney Olympic.

"The atmosphere at club matches is terrific.

DAVID BARRETT

"I have been to watch rugby league games with some of my friends where the crowds have been up to 15,000.

"But the atmosphere is far more exciting at Sydney Olympic matches, where the crowds are about one third of that."

Barrett came to the club at the beginning of 1986, when Sydney City closed down.

"Sydney Olympic supporters are fanatical and deserve some success.

"I feel we will do well in the Top Five Series. Team spirit is very high at the moment.

"The Greek supporters have really helped me a lot.

"Not being a Greek, I thought I would be under a handicap with them.

"But *the opposite* has happened. They took to me from the start, so I always stop to talk to them as I feel *I owe it to them.*

"We have beaten all the teams in the Top Five so far in the second round and we seem to always have the edge over Marconi.

"Marconi finds it hard to play against us and can't contain us."

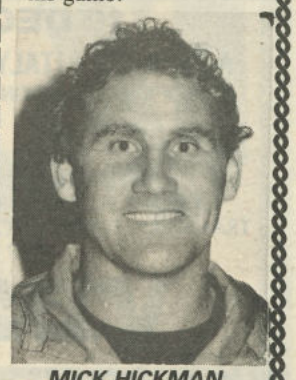
Barrett's form has gone from strength to strength but he remains his own best critic.

He said: "I always seem to feel I can do much better and work harder.

"I do a lot of extra training on my own."

This year his strong attacks have helped his team's attacking ability enormously.

He readily admits that Geoff Harcombe, the former Sydney City youth coach now at Olympic, has done much to help develope his game.



MICK HICKMAN

"Both Eddie Thomson and Mick Hickman also have been of great assistance," he concluded.

DAVID BARRETT (Sydney Olympic)

PERSONALITY PLAYER

NAME: David Barrett
BIRTHPLACE & DATE: Balmain 21.2.69
HEIGHT: 185cms
WEIGHT: 84kg
MARRIED: No.
HOME SUBURB: Drummoyne
NICKNAME: "D.B"
CAR: Corolla
OCCUPATION: College student doing Bachelor of Education, majoring in mathematics.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Avala, Sydney City.
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Virdis (AC Milan)
FAVOURITE LOCAL PLAYER: Paul Trimboli
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Robbie Slater
FAVOURITE GROUND: St George Stadium
FAVOURITE MEMORABLE GAME: Against Argentina U16 in China. We beat both Argentina and West Germany 1-0.
BIGGEST THRILL: Making the Australian U16s.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Being carried off last year in the semi-final against Marconi.
FAVOURITE POSITION: Right-back.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Golf, windsurfing.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Italian.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Fruit juice.
FAVOURITE MUSIC: Any pop music.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: LA Law and SBS World Soccer.
FAVOURITE MOVIE: Stake-out.
BEST FRIEND: A next door neighbour.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Eddie Thomson, Mick Hickman, Geoff Harcombe.
WORST INJURY: Against Marconi gashed leg — 15 stitches.
AMBITIONS: To win a championship with Sydney Olympic and go overseas.
PRE-MATCH SUPERSITITIONS: Always eat pasta on the night before the match.
MOST PROMISING TEAM MATE: Jason Polak.
PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: Pele.

— Compiled by JOHN ECONOMOS

Unlucky Bergers bow out

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

DESPITE Heidelberg's gallant fight-back from two goals down after 29 minutes to snatch a meritorious 2-2 draw against Sydney Olympic, they will still be relegated back to the Victorian State League.

Heidelberg's streak of bad luck continued even before the match kicked off when their team-bus driver took them from Sydney airport to the wrong stadium (Sydney Football Stadium). The team eventually arrived at the correct St George Stadium location just 20 minutes before the announced kick-off time.

Heidelberg's luck failed again as early as 35 seconds after the start when they should have scored easily. Striker Phil Stubbins streaked away down the right, crossed perfectly to fellow-striker Stuart Stevenson, but his header was wide.

Sydney Olympic then opened the "innings" in the 17th minute following a lovely chipped free-kick by midfielder Gary Phillips to find Jason Polak heading the ball which ricochetted off the left post for centre-back George Haniotis to be on hand to collect the rebound and push the ball into the net from two metres.

Olympic made it 2-0 in the 29th minute when striker Alistair Edwards scored with a powerful first-time left-footed 16-metre drive following a solid cross from the left by Abbas Saad which Heidelberg's left-back Alan Scott failed to clear cleanly.

When everything looked lost, the Victorians dug in and hit back in the 33rd minute when from a well-slung left-footed corner from the right by Steve Gojevic, rugged midfielder Paul McDowall got up well to crash in a powerful header from the edge of the six-yard box.

George Haniotis of Sydney Olympic scores over Garry McDowall of Heidelberg's still kicking body as the teams drew 2-2 at St George Stadium.

Heidelberg wiped out their deficit just two minutes after "drinks" with a well-taken goal from 16 metres out, struck by Stubbins.

Olympic came close to scoring a third goal in the 57th minute when left-back Steve Georgakis passed to Edwards, who whipped in a cross from the left but Saad's glancing header flashed past the timber.

Heidelberg still could have pulled themselves out of the fire with just three minutes left of play but Gary McDowall's 15-metre effort sailed over Clint Gosling's crossbar.

Olympic's captain and sweeper, Robbie Hooker, Haniotis and Gary Phillips, despite a back injury, were Olympic's best.

For Heidelberg, twin central defenders Gary McDowall and Bobby Russell were good value as always, whilst strikers Stubbins and Stevenson, although trying hard, lacked the necessary back-up from their midfield.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling, Barrett, Haniotis, Hooker, Georgakis, Lee, Phillips (Koch 80), Ironside, Polak, Saad, Edwards.

HEIDELBERG UNITED: Olver, Kanesoulis (Ousalkis 66), G. McDowall, Russell, Scott, Goutzoulis, P. McDowall, Gojevic (Alagiozidis 79), Stewart, Stevenson, Stubbins.

Referee: J. Reeves. Crowd: 2799.

Brothers in arms — Paul McDowall (Heidelberg) and Alistair Edwards (Sydney Olympic) involved in Sunday's 2-2 draw at St George Stadium.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

St George, the surprise packet of the season, pipped Olympic on the post for second place in the premiership after one of their very best NSL seasons ever, but they will have their work cut out on Sunday.

This game will be won or lost in the midfield where Olympic appear stronger, but beware of Saints' ability to mount lethal breakaways.

The teams were all square in the league, winning one game apiece by the identical 2-0 scoreline, but Olympic slammed St George 6-3 in the NSL Cup.

Olympic to win by the odd goal.

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Gardiner's magic wand

BY PETER DESIRA

COACH John Gardiner appears certain to attract offers from other NSL clubs after completing yet another rescue mission at Sunshine George Cross.

Gardiner is already a candidate at two NSL clubs and has been contacted to see if he is interested.

He refused to talk to either club during the week to concentrate on George Cross' last match of the season.

The club was in the fortunate position of having its destiny in its own hands — provided it won against Sydney Croatia in the last round.

"We have been grouped with the relegation zone for most of the season but I never considered it a possibility.

"I've honestly believed we would get out of it all along simply because we have been creating chances. It's when you're not making them that it's a problem."

OSSIE LATIF

Sunshine was the better side for most of Sunday's game except for a 10-minute period in which Sydney Croatia created two clear-cut chances.

From the opening Sean Keogh made a good save off a point-blank shot by David Rezo, while a Shane Clinch header rattled the crossbar.

"There was a 15-minute period at the end of the first half where there was arguing (among the players) and only Keogh's great save kept us in the game," Gardiner said.

"I was glad to see halftime because it gave me the chance to get stuck into the people concerned.

"But apart from that, I felt we were well in control."

Despite Croatia's chances, Cross had created the bigger number of openings in the first half. But Paul Lewis, Ossie Latif and Les Carter were off-target with their final shots.

Zlatko Nastevski did not score last Sunday. Preston's Ilija Taseski (left) was one of the reasons he failed to add to his 20-goal tally — HECTOR CARRASCO pix.

Sunshine finally broke the deadlock in the 57th minute. Pat Morley controlled a centre from Jeff Faulkner and laid the ball off for Lewis to score his ninth goal of the season.

Cross increased its lead in the 68th minute when Morley put away the rebound after Latif's shot had hit the post.

Sydney Croatia got back in the game within a minute when Alan Hunter put the ball in the back of the net in a goalmouth scramble.

But Cross restored its two-goal cushion in the 76th minute when Latif scored.

Cross supporters rushed onto the field to celebrate at the final whistle.

SUNSHINE: Keogh, Marth, Kotzamichalis, Waddell, Parton, Carter, Faulkner, Maclaren, Latif, Morley, Lewis (Hasler 74).

SYDNEY CROATIA: Krajnovic, Savor, Rozic, Hunter, Jennings, Rezo, Rumora (Foster 45), Jones, Clinch, Lamond (Zelic 84), Arnold.

Referee: D. Voutsinas. Crowd: 1743.

Admire the elegance of John Markovski (right) as he gives Gerry Gomez the slip at Marconi Stadium last Sunday. Preston Makedonia and Marconi drew 0-0 — Photo by HECTOR CARRASCO.

Fred de Jong wins this aerial battle in a crowded Preston goalmouth but the Victorians held out for a 0-0 draw — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

Precious Preston point

BY KEITH GILMOUR

IT came as no surprise to the outstanding 5850 crowd at Marconi Stadium on Sunday when Marconi Fairfield and Preston Makedonia finished scoreless at the end of the regulation 90 minutes.

The respective defences were on top throughout, with Marconi's the tidier of the two and Preston's able to cut out most of the ball that arrived in the air.

Marconi of course were long since crowned as minor premiers, whilst the point so earnt in the event was not even needed in seeing Preston into the cut-throat semi-final on Sunday.

The field was quite heavy, and overall both sides were below their best for much of the game.

Afterwards Marconi coach Berti Mariani said: "Preston played quite tightly at the back and were difficult to get past.

"I was very pleased with the way we held up when they had the pressure on us at the end.

"Now we have a week's break to do our planning and see that everyone is fit for the major semi-final."

There were no strikes on goal for the first 30 minutes, although Fred de Jong could not have gone closer when he turned a brilliant header towards the far top corner from Jean-Paul de Marigny's wide left free-kick in the 40th minute.

This was the chance of the entire game, but Marconi were denied by a marvellous save by Phil Traianedes.

Four minutes earlier Warren Spink might have made something of his chance when he was put through, but he dawdled and was unable to make an effective placement.

In the second half the Marconi defence continued to set its offside trap, and the Preston forwards were caught up in it time without number.

Preston's big chance came in the 6lst minute, when defender George Jolevski unleashed a tremendous drive from some 45 metres out.

Bobby Catlin would have been well beaten had it been just a little better directed.

Over the last 15 minutes Preston took the play to their opponents, forcing three successive corners at one stage, but they could not capitalise on their advantage.

David Lowe came on late in the game, but unfortunately he could not settle into his usual hard working role.

MARCONI: Catlin, Colucci (Katholos 64m), de Marigny, Calderan, Wheatley, Gray, Gomez, Nastevski, de Jong, McCulloch, Colagiuri (Lowe 74m).

PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Traianedes, Tasevski, Jolevski, Jackson, Piculovski, Tasevski, Markovski, Petrov, Spink, Smith, Markovac.

Referee: C.Bambridge. Crowd: 5850.

Saints secure double-chance

BY VLADO VLAHOVIC

ST GEORGE scored a vital late equaliser against a youthful South Melbourne side to confirm second position (and a double finals chance) after a thoroughly entertaining 90 minutes at Middle Park last Sunday.

ZORAN ILIC

South Melbourne, with nothing but pride to play for, fielded three youngsters for their first taste of the big time.

Defender Dean Fak, 17, forwards Con Boutsianis, 17 and Con Argyrious, 18, all performed satisfactorily, especially Boutsianis who showed tonnes of maturity when breaking the deadlock in the ninth minute with a fine low shot into the far corner of the net.

South created many chances in the first half hour with Danny Wright causing havoc on the right wing and young forwards Boutsianis and Argyriou eagerly throwing themselves into every attack.

Towards the latter stages of the first half, St George finally found another gear via forward Tony Krslovic.

In between, Argyriou hit a fine half-volley from 20 metres, beating the diving Mike Gibson to his right but a goal it was not to be!

St George central defender Andy Koczka retaliated immediately with a powerful 25-metre attempt which was not too far wide either.

South Melbourne began the second half as it ended the first — deep in attack — with diminutive striker Peter Tsolakis providing the highlights this time around.

St George, realising it needed to salvage at least a point to ensure a top three spot and hence a double-finals chance, came back at South Melbourne again to share equally chances created for the game.

St George's equaliser came in the 86th minute through substitute Zoran Ilic who planted the loose ball home into the top corner of the net after lead-up work from Scott Olleranshaw.

Ilic, could have crowned himself in glory with the title of "super sub" but he missed a sitter, blasting way over the top after a quick counter-attack, but a share of the points was the fairest outcome.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Maclaren, Healy, Postecoglou, Fak, Blair, Petersen, Boutsianis (Taliadoros 62), Argyriou, Trimboli, Wright, Tsolakis.

ST GEORGE: Gibson, Green, Grbevski, Koczka (Harmat 86'), Ratcliffe, Morakeas, Krslovic, Moffit, Bingley (Ilic 75), Pottier, Ollerenshaw.

Referee: John Frazer. Crowd: 5,000 (double-header).

West End Beer at its best.

Final National League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi	26	16	6	4	62	24	38
St George	26	12	8	6	33	24	32
Sydney Olympic	26	11	9	6	37	26	31
Melbourne Croatia	26	13	5	8	44	35	31
Preston	26	11	8	7	31	24	30
Adelaide City	26	10	8	8	29	24	28
Sydney Croatia	26	10	8	8	25	25	28
South Melbourne	26	9	8	9	44	37	26
Wollongong City	26	8	7	11	22	29	23
APIA Leichhardt	26	7	9	10	27	35	23
Sunshine GC	26	7	5	14	25	38	19
Blacktown	26	5	9	12	28	50	19
Melbourne JUST	26	5	8	13	24	37	18
Heidelberg	26	7	4	15	22	45	18

Results

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Z. Adzic, J. Caleta) MELBOURNE JUST 0 at Middle Park. Crowd: 5000 (double-header).

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (C. Boutsianis) ST GEORGE 1 (Z. Ilic) at Middle Park. Crowd: 5000 (double-header)

MARCONI 0 PRESTON MAKEDONIA 0 at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 5850.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 3 (P. Lewis, P. Morley, O. Latif) SYDNEY CROATIA 1 (A. Hunter) at Chaplin Reserve. Crowd: 1743.

BLACKTOWN CITY 3 (D. Batten, Z. Arambasic, Z. Odzakov) ADELAIDE CITY 2 (M. Ivanovich, T. Vidmar) at Olympic Sports Field. Crowd: 3500.

WOLLONGONG CITY 1 (R. Easthorpe) APIA LEICHHARDT 1 (J. Kosmina) at Brandon Park. Crowd: 903.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 (G. Haniotis, A. Edwards) HEIDELBERG 2 (P. McDowall, P. Stubbins) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 2799.

ST GEORGE 3 (A. Harper, T.Krslovic, S. Ollerenshaw) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 0 at St George Stadium. Crowd: 2835 — deferred game.

MELBOURNE JUST 1 (S. Besvinovski) ADELAIDE CITY 1 (A. Vidmar) at Scintler Reserve. Crowd: 2050 — deferred game.

Top Scorers

ZLATKO NASTEVSKI	Marconi	20
FRED DE JONG	Marconi	13
ZELJKO ADZIC	Melbourne Croatia	11
IVAN KELIC	Melbourne Croatia	11
SCOTT OLLERENSHAW	St George	11
PAUL TRIMBOLI	South Melbourne	10

Crowds

ROUND 26: 19,795
AVERAGE PER GAME: 3,299

TOTAL 1989 NSL ATTENDANCE: 531,470
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER ROUND: 20,441

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PRESENTED BY JOHN BELL

1-1 draw at Brandon

BY PHIL MURPHY

WOLLONGONG City coach Doug Collins left Brandon Park last Sunday having resisted the temptation to return to the job on a full-time basis.

Apia coach Mike Urukalo walked out of the other dressing room not knowing if he will be able to hold onto his job.

The contrast of coaches followed an entertaining 1-1 draw and Collins went back into retirement after nine weeks on the job helping the Wolves stave off relegation.

He said he had enjoyed his stint with Wollongong but soccer had to take a back seat to religion, his family and his thriving McDonald's franchise in Nowra.

Apia looked very shaky at the back against a Wolves' outfit which didn't have the firepower to take advantage of it.

Midfielder Danny Crainie carved out a number of chances for strikers Pat Brodnik and Walter Calbanese in the first half but without the desired result.

While Wollongong had the better of things up to the interval, Apia took over in the second half with midfielder Alex Bundalo outstanding.

It was Bundalo who created Apia's goal early in the second half, making a strong run on the left before the ball was switched to Pedro Ricoy on the right.

His low cross found the Wolves' defence off-guard and John Kosmina was well placed to hammer the ball home.

Wollongong's goal had been scored after only three minutes by central midfielder Randell Easthorpe.

It resulted from a long freekick from Ray Vlietstra which Apia's defence couldn't cope with.

Goalkeeper Tony Pezzano did well to partially save a Calbanese shot and Easthorpe swooped on the loose ball to give the home team a dream start.

WOLLONGONG: Bouhoutsos, Allport, Vlietstra, Morlando, Hollifield, Stefanovski (Higgs 75) Easthorpe, Kotamanidis, Calbanese, Brodnik, Crainie.

APIA: Pezzano, Webber, Blagojevic, Halliday, O'Connor, Pisano (Mason 25), Bundalo, Ellem, Hagen, Kosmina, Ricoy.

Referee: Garry Power. Crowd: 903.

Bill Piculovski lets Jean-Paul de Marigny get away with the ball at Marconi Stadium last Sunday as Preston and Marconi drew 0-0 — HECTOR CARRASCO pic.

JUST buried

BY GREG BLAKE

LAST Sunday's Melbourne Croatia vs Melbourne JUST derby had all the intensity one would associate with such a clash but rarely has such a meeting between the two clubs meant so much to either camp, even putting aside the usual rivalries.

For Croatia it was a chance to bury its long-time rival, possibly for good, and JUST supporters, anticipating the usual last-minute escape from relegation, hoped to end Croatia's frenetic bid to make its first finals appearance in four years.

On-field and off the simmering pressure-cooker situation threatened to explode.

Indeed one or two moments of on-field brutality during the second half threatened to tip the burning cauldron across the lush Middle Park turf.

Thankfully, we were spared the unthinkable.

No so Melbourne JUST which bade

Mehmet Durakovic

farewell to 13 years of NSL football as it went down fighting 2-0 to Croatia.

JUST, the team most likely to survive as we went into Sunday's round, was never in Croatia's class for most of the 90 minutes.

That it was still hanging in there at a scoreless half-time break is testimony to the courage of its usual band of tireless battlers led by Mehmet Durakovic.

At half-time the match was still very much in the balance.

Seven minutes later it was almost all over for the Blues as that man Zejlko Adzic struck for the decisive opening goal.

The symbol of Croatia's new-found success struck with a glancing header as he leaped to meet Alan Davidson's cross from the right and from that moment on there was little doubt that Melbourne's 1989 glamour team would go on with the job.

Croatia was intent on going for the jugular with Joe Caleta relentless in his running, Branko Milosevic playing his manic midfield role and Adzic always lurking in the shadows.

That it couldn't punish JUST was testimony to the fighting qualities of the boys in blue as they hoped against hope that results elsewhere would be falling in their favour.

But, just as the results went against them, so did the game at hand as Croatia struck again with 13 minutes remaining.

Caleta nabbed Croatia's second as he turned home a cross from the gleeful Francis Awaritefe to make it 2-0 to send JUST crashing out of the NSL.

But if there is one enduring memory of this game it came at full-time when every JUST player made a point of congratulating each of the Croatia players as they left the park.

If nothing else, the Melbourne JUST players left Middle Park with dignity intact.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Grgic, Davidson, Donnelly, Selemidis, Cannell, Duzel, Milosevic, Biskic, Caleta, Adzic, Awaritefe.

MELBOURNE JUST: Nikitovic, Deankovic, Kalogeros, Karic, van Egmond, Durakovic, Besvinovski, Palatsides, Retre (Lazopoulos 72), Crino, Murphy.

Referee: D. Campbell. Crowd: 5,000 (double-header).

Odzakov stars in daring escape

BY ALAN CLARK

BLACKTOWN officials well may be considering commissioning a statue of Zarko Odzakov.

He was their saviour in a scintillating seesaw 3-2 win against Adelaide City on Sunday at Adelaide's Olympic Sports Field.

Odzakov curled a 20-metre freekick around the City defensive wall into the net in the 87th minute to keep Blacktown in the NSL and deny City a place in the top five play-offs.

Adelaide City veteran Bugsy Nyskohus played the opening 10 minutes to become the first to chalk up 300 games in the NSL.

But there were no celebrations for him.

Blacktown were in, then out, and then in the league again in a crazy final seven minutes.

Gibson, Maier and Odzakov dictated play in the middle, Reynolds, and especially Glenn Sterrey, were magnificent in defence and Batten, Arambasic and the free-running Jason van Blerk all impressed.

Blacktown seemed to have much more desire on the day.

And that desire saw it scrape home in a nerve-tingling finish after Ivanovich, desperately pushed up into midfield, scored in a goalmouth scramble for City in the 67th minute.

Arambasic exposed the stretched City defence with a class goal in the 83rd minute but then young Tony Vidmar, on for the lacklustre Villani, levelled again with another scrambled goal in the 84th minute.

Blacktown's NSL life was back in the balance but then Arambasic earned a free-

ZLATKO ARAMBASIC

kick just outside the box and Odzakov's piece of curling magic saw the NSW boys back in the big time for another year.

"I'm sorry for SA and our fans," said City coach Zoran Matic.

"Our minds seemed to be frozen on the day. We have had a difficult period lately but I thought the importance of the match would lift us. That was not to be."

Ecstatic Blacktown coach Les Scheinflug, who, ironically, formerly coached City, said: "I am pleased with the result for the club and the boys.

"They will benefit from this experience and will be a better team because of it next year. We won't make as many mistakes as we did this year."

Striker David Batten, who rattled the normally reliable City backline, gave Blacktown a 1-0 lead after a first half they dominated.

Big, blond Batten stormed on to a Neville Flounders miskick in the 18th minute to drill a shot past Robert Zabica.

Blacktown twice had hit the crossbar in the half through a Sergio Melta backpass and a John Gibson header.

Zabica also pulled off a tremendous save from Ralph Maier and Zlatko Arambasic had a goal disallowed for offside after more good work from Batten.

City played Nyskohus with usual sweeper Milan Ivanovich pushed up into midfield.

But after 10 minutes, knee injury-worried Charlie Villani came on for the record-breaker and Ivanovich slotted back into defence.

But City never fired in a match it had to win to have any hope of the play-offs.

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica, Shillabeer, Tobin, Nyskohus (Villani 10, T Vidmar 58), Flounders, Melta, Santrac, Ivanovich, Mullen, Maxwell, A Vidmar.

BLACKTOWN: Watson, Bennett, G. Sterrey, Reynolds, Namouv, Odzakov, Gibson, Maier, Batten, Arambasic, van Blerk.

Referee: B Monteverde. Crowd: 3500

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EDITOR

IT was a worthwhile promotion for a Socceroo select team to play in Newcastle to commemorate the first 100 years of the Adamstown Rosebud Soccer Football Club.

The crowd of 3,000 under wintry conditions indicated that the appearance of Australia's No.1 unit was greatly appreciated.

The "Rosebud", incidentally, is a reference to the English origins of those who started the club in those early days of Australian soccer football.

Players of the calibre of Graham Jennings, Ray Baartz, Col Curran, Ron Giles, John Doyle, Peter Stone and Joe Senkalski came through the Adamstown ranks.

In an earlier era Billy Coolahan, Billy Morgan, Alf "Ducky" Henwood, Gordon "Sticky" Muncaster, Dave Coote, Bill Mahoney and Cyril Nicholls were amongst the many stars who appeared in the distinctive Adamstown colours.

There will be many more highly accomplished players to come through the same ranks.

However, the Australian Soccer Federation should consider whether the "Socceroos" label will be applied in future to a team which is well below national team status.

Players were included who, despite their ability, have not been regarded as regular Australian representatives.

The name "Socceroo" is an obvious drawcard for matches of this nature, but once the tag would have been "an Australian XI", which is more indicative of the status of the side.

This situation should be subject to rethink and possible adjustment.

There is good reason also to have a general overview of the position of the game in Newcastle.

Always big on soccer, Newcastle has suffered by being out of the National Soccer League, and the Northern Federation has made an approach to the NSW Federation for support with the ASF in putting an NSL club on the road.

With rugby league back in the limelight after soccer had done so well with Newcastle KB United, a fresh look is needed for the sake of both Newcastle and the sport Australia-wide.

To help raise the necessary capital, it is essential that a combined Newcastle effort be made.

Northern Federation, Newcastle Austral, Adamstown and other licensed clubs and business interests should take the lead in getting together a Newcastle NSL team for 1991/92.

Without a combined move, Newcastle will remain in the shadows that had characterised its existence ever since the NSW Federation banished them to the backblocks when it took over from the association in 1957 — over 30 years ago.

The only time of joy was in the Newcastle KB days.

So here's a toast to Adamstown's Centenary and to the future of a well planned, brighter future for Newcastle football.

Shock results in final NSL round

BY LOU GAUTIER

The 1989 National League regular season ended with a blaze of upsets which affected both ends of a convulsed points ladder.

Behind runaway minor premiers Marconi, six points to the good of the rest of the field, the battle for the other top four positions was not decided until the very end, with St George finally filling second place, Sydney Olympic third and the two Melbourne clubs, Croatia and Preston Makedonia, qualifying for this weekend's sudden death play-off.

Adelaide City, whose fate rested on no-one but themselves, blew it.

They could only manage one point from two games when held to a draw midweek at Melbourne JUST before losing at home to gritty Blacktown City.

Sydney Croatia's horror season ended as dismally as it had started, with a defeat against Sunshine George Cross.

That such a talented team should have had such a mediocre season is one of the mysteries of 1989.

Melbourne Croatia, contrary to popular belief, did not "choke".

Their win over Melbourne JUST not only clinched a play-off berth, but relegated their arch rivals.

Preston Makedonia showed character when they compelled the minor premiers to a share of the points after a dreadful performance against St George four days earlier had all but suggested that their Top Five chances were nil.

While a Sydney trifecta atop the table was not unexpected, St George's splendid second place was definitely a surprise.

Rated as relegation candidates by many before the start of the season, Frank Arok had the last laugh on the so-called experts as his team certainly did not usurp its exalted final standing.

Sydney Olympic finished like a house on fire once Eddie Thomson had settled on his strongest starting line-up after a hesitant debut in the minor premiership.

Victoria's joy at securing two Top Five berths was tempered by the shock outcome of an absorbing relegation battle which went down to the fire.

That great master of suspense, the late Alfred Hitchcock, could not have scripted it better.

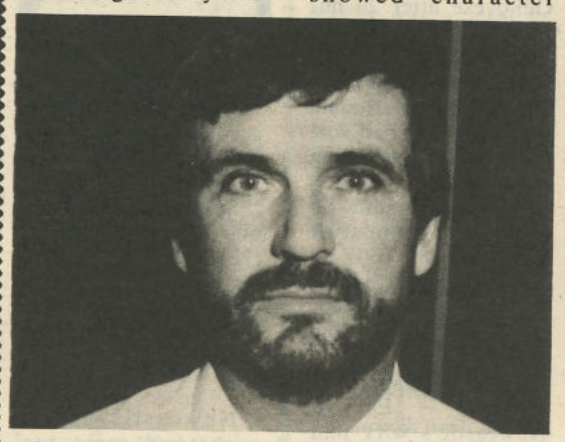
The issue was virtually decided with only the last kick and once the dust had settled the cruel verdict was that Melbourne had lost two of its clubs.

JUST are out of the National League for the first time and Heidelberg are back in the Victorian State League after only one season.

Sunshine, with limited financial resources, escaped the big chop entirely on their merits and won everyone's admiration in the process. Well done, George Cross!

Blacktown City also confounded the experts by saving their necks in the nick of time with a tremendous fighting display in Adelaide to live another season in the elite.

Heidelberg and JUST's places in the summer National League, which kicks off on November 5, will be taken by the winners of the NSW State League — almost certainly Melita Eagles — and the winner of a three-way play-off between the champions of Victoria, South Australia and Queensland.



JOHN GARDINER: coached his Sunshine boys to safety once more.

Garry McDowall (Heidelberg) at left was on the relegated side. Abbas Saad (Sydney Olympic) will be in the preliminary semi-final after the 2-2 draw at St George Stadium last Sunday.

NSL TOP FIVE

Marconi tops for quantity — Adcity leads on quality

MARCONI has played in more Top Four or Five games than any other team in NSL history but Adelaide City, which has managed just five finals games, is the most successful side in post-season games.

With the first of the 1989 finals matches just a matter of days away ASW has compiled an exclusive chart of all-time NSL finals records.

Our chart includes all Top Four or Five games played since 1977 with games decided on penalties regarded as drawn fixtures.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Success rate
Adelaide City	5	4	0	1	10	5	80.00%
Brisbane Lions	2	1	1	0	4	2	75.00%
St George	10	7	0	3	19	10	70.00%
B. Juventus	8	5	0	3	10	9	62.50%
Sydney Olympic	15	8	2	5	25	23	60.00%
Marconi	21	8	5	8	40	39	50.00%
Sydney City	19	9	1	9	24	23	50.00%
Preston Mak	9	2	3	2	12	11	50.00%
Brisbane City	5	2	1	2	7	9	50.00%
Melbourne JUST	4	2	0	2	7	6	50.00%
Sunshine GC	2	1	0	1	2	3	50.00%
Sydney Croatia	8	2	2	4	8	12	37.50%
Wollongong	4	1	1	2	3	5	37.50%
APIA L'hardt	6	1	2	3	7	13	33.33%
Heidelberg	14	4	1	9	24	26	32.14%
Melb. Croatia	5	1	0	4	9	13	20.00%
West Adelaide	1	0	0	1	2	3	-----
Blacktown City	1	0	0	1	1	3	-----

— GREG BLAKE

COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL TURNER CUP

Inverell top in North West

INVERELL High School's Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup team has swept all before it to become the champions of the North West-New England area for 1989.

To reach this position, Inverell defeated MacIntyre 3-0, Tenterfield 11-0, Duval (Armidale) 2-1 and Oxley (Tamworth) 2-1.

They now meet one of the powerful sides from the Newcastle-Hunter area in a pre-quarter final match late in July.

In the New Zealand decider, a Scott Dunshea goal in the second half of extra-time sealed the match in Inverell's favour.

It was a hard match with no quarter given.

Duval scored first through P. Melville with an equaliser by Nicholas Grennan, both in the first half. Extra-time was needed to separate the sides.

For Duval, P. Melville, M. Griffin and J. Barlow played well and for Inverell, Brett Wrick, Clinton Cox and David McCosker stood out.

Referee C.D. Gadd had a top game.

Area final

With home ground advantage Inverell were again forced into extra-time to take out top place in the New England-North West area final.

Oxley High, with a tradition of top class soccer teams, started favourites for this encounter.

But it was Inverell who had the upper hand in the first half and justified their 1-0 lead at half-time.

On hand again was Nicholas Grennan to give his side the lead.

After a pep-talk from coach Vyner, Oxley were a different side in the second half and took the game up to Inverell.

Michael Chandler equalised for Oxley which set the scene for another bent of extra-time.

Inverell coach Shane Bricknell replaced Clinton Cox who had played well with Bren Cowled and the side got marginally on top again but could not score.

Oxley came back in the second period but Inverell would not be denied.

End-to-end football gave the spectators plenty to cheer about.

Just when it appeared that the dreaded penalty kicks would have to used David McCosker scored for Inverell — a lead they maintained to the final whistle.

Best for Oxley were Michael Chandler, Corey Walton and David Rushbrook; for Inverell Adam Woodbury, Brett Wrick and Mark Brabant as determined by referee Mr D Clancy who controlled the game well.

Any game that features the "Red Devils" and the "Bluebells" is likely to produce plenty of sparks.

It has in one way or another for almost one hundred years.

The Wallsend vs West Wallsend clash at Col Curran Oval was no exception.

Jayson Morris got Westy off to great start when he nipped in to score their first goal after only 45 seconds.

Wallsend fought back and held Westy out until half-time.

In the second session the Blues scored twice through M Rominski and Steven Durkot while Greg Isles converted a good chance for Wallsend.

Best for Wallsend were Cale Wallace, Kurt Wheatley and Scott Brent.

Best for West Wallsend were Mark Johnston, Craig Jeffries and Jason Preston.

West Wallsend now play Merwether in an area semi-final.

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Brown nets two as Eagles soar

MELITA Eagles striker Greg Brown helped himself to two goals to steer his side to a convincing 3-1 victory over top four challenger Polonia at Melita Stadium on Sunday.

Brown is second leading league sharpshooter with nine goals but he must have been kicking himself after the match for failing to at least double his swag.

He had two of the easiest chances in the first few minutes facing Polonmia's agile keeper Bruce Thurlow but was off target. And in the 11th minute, following a great Ray Farrugia through ball Brown again confronted Thurlow.

He pushed the ball around Thurlow but lost his footing over the fallen keeper, with fans calling in vain for a penalty.

Thurlow denied Brown yet again in the 38th as the burly Melita striker's shot deflected off the keeper's legs.

Andrew Callanan picked up the rebound but failed to find the target.

Farrugia missed another for the home side with Polonia having to defend grimly in the first half.

In fact Tim Andersen was the first to place a shot at Melita's goal in the 40th minute while Pavel Janduda hit an inefective drive from 30 metres a few minutes later.

Five minutes into the second half Brown at last had reason to smile.

Aytek Genc was upended by Craig Thompson and Brown scored from the resultant penalty.

Six minutes later Genc struck the post with the rebound finding Brown but his finishing was less than satisfactory.

Polonia equalised from yet another penalty as Janduda was brought down by Craig Williams. Lesek Kulwicki made no mistake from the spot.

The visitors hardly had time to celebrate as midfield dynamo Genc got into the action again.

His shot from 30 metres was blocked but fell for Hugo Gimenez whose effort was also stopped.

Genc raced in to unleash a tremendous right footer which nested in the top left hand corner of Thurlow's goal.

Lenny Vial hit the post in the 67th, then Thurlow made another fine save from Genc in the 70th before Brown came in with his second for the match.

Genc fed Vial who pushed it wide to Jorge Cerro and his accurate cross found Brown steaming in to score in the 86th.

MELITA EAGLES: McPherson, Dickinson, Williams, Barrios (G Cerro 68m), Gonzalez, Callanan, Farrugia (Vial 65m), Gimenez, J Cerro, Genc, Brown.

POLONIA: Thurlow, Chou (D Pratt), C Thompson, Lasek, Kulwicki, G Thompson, Mojsa (Beamer), M Pratt, Caruso, Janduda, Andersen.

N.S.W. FIRST DIVISION with ALEX VESIC

GREG BROWN

Kingdom for a striker!

"IF only I had someone up front to match the strength I have at the back," lamented Warringah Freshwater coach Ljubo Gojkovic as his side drew 0-0 with Canterbury Marrickville at Cromer Park last Sunday.

Freshwater conceded just one goal in the last four matches but scored none. So far just five goals were scored by the side from North Sydney, a record equaled only by last-placed Uruguay.

The visitors came to Cromer Park looking for both points in order to maintain their challenge for the top and with the likes of Marshall Soper, Tony Parison and Nick Oustambasidis in their forward line it was going to be an uphill battle for Dragan Pupovac and his defence.

However, Alan Dean kept a watchful eye on Marshall Soper, while Djura Stanimirovic controlled proceedings at the back to deny the visitors.

In fact, the only serious opening for Canterbury came after an error by Ross Etherington. His attempted back pass was almost suicidal but Dragn Pupovac, the Warringah keeper, raced out to block a shot by Parison.

Canterbury were not very happy after the match, claiming that Pupovac impeded their player.

Warringah appeared to have more 'legs' in the closing stages and looked close to breaking down the visitors' defence but their strikers lacked enterprise.

WARRINGAH FRESHWATER: Pupovac, Pierce, Stanimirovic, Dean, Knight, Corrigan, Campbell, Etherington (Pearse), Phillips, O'Neal, Sharpe.

CANTERBURY: Hummel, Godzik, Hantzis, Radman, Spanoudakis, Divljak, Plataniotis, Kalogeras, Parison, Soper, Oustambasidis.

Porter vs Porter!

CRACK goalpoacher Bret Porter spearheaded Newcastle Austral to a great 2-1 victory over Rockdale Ilinden at the Austral Park on Sunday.

Porter had been prominent from the early stages.

An intercept by Doug Elphick after 14 minutes almost led to the opening goal.

Elphick sent Porter on his way but Keith Warren was well positioned to effect a fine save from the Nevocastrian striker.

Two minutes later, Porter was at it again hitting a superb header but just wide of the Ilinden upright.

The visitors came back through Tony Genovese after 20 minutes following an error by Michael Boogaard. Craig Carter appeared in trouble as Genovese sped forward but his finishing was way off the mark.

Only two minutes later Genovese sent Greg Lerond into an opening but Carter, the Newcastle keeper, came well off his line to deny the speedy Rockdale forward.

Mark Elrick, Newcastle's wiry midfielder, was on target in the closing stages of the first half, but his fierce drive was blocked by Warren. Elrick got another bite of the cherry but his shot was deflected to the feet of Dean McWhirter who netted from metres away.

Porter sealed the match for Newcastle two minutes into the second period following some good work by Kevin Shell.

STUART PORTER

Stuart Porter grabbed Ilinden's consolation goal from the penalty spot in the 81st minute. Boogaard was the offender, handling the ball inside his own area.

Newcastle had to withstand some real pressure in the closing nine minutes with Ilinden getting ever so close to taking a point.

NEWCASTLE AUSTRAL: Carter, Bowen, Jones, Boogard, Owens, Shell, Elrick, Porter (Bailey), McWhirter, Elphick (Caimakamis), Devon.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Warren, Segretto, Deveridge, O'Donnell, Porter, Buchanan, Lerond, Wilson, Markovski, Dounis, Genovese (Lardis).

'Gong in tune

WOLLONGONG Macedonia is back in business following its 3-1 win over Sutherland Shire at Kelly Park last Sunday.

A torrential downpour just prior to the kick-off failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the local team as they used the slippery conditions better than Sutherland to race into top gear early.

Wollongong Macedonia midfielder Paul Kay surprised Paul Dart with a well measured 18-metre drive after just seven minutes to set his side on the way to victory.

It was an uphill battle for the visitors from then on with Graeme Fletcher, Macedonia's speedy striker, making life exceptionally difficult for the Shire defence.

He almost snuck one in after 35 minutes but his header went centimetres over the bar.

Fletcher made amends a minute later, beating two players on the run to set up John McKie for Macedonia's second goal.

Two up and looking extremely confident, the locals were never in danger of losing their grip on the match. With 18 minutes remaining the fate of the visitors was sealed.

John Cavanah broke through to chip one for Tony Caban but the header by the Macedonia central striker hit the keeper, then bounced to Fletcher who lobbed it in for a 3-0 scoreline.

Paul McFadden reduced the arears with five minutes remaining but that was just about all that the visitors could do against this well organised and superbly fit Macedonia side.

And while Macedonia celebrated its win with Kay being voted man of the match the visitors had little to offer.

"Everything hinges on our deferred matches against Melita Eagles. If we beat Melita then the race for the title will be wide open," said Lou Stefanovski, the secretary of Wollonong Macedonia."

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA: Burchmore, Cavanah, Shaw, Gallway, Wilson, Kay, Sandy, Bourke, McKie, Fletcher, Caban (Thornthwaite 75m).

SUTHERLAND: Dart, O'Shea, Seller (Edmunds), Terry, Ensor, Biscaya, Christodolou, Hutcheon, McFadden, Parsons, Hill.

NSW State League Div 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canberra Croatia	15	10	1	4	31	16	21
Melita Eagles	11	9	1	1	28	8	19
Avala	11	6	3	2	16	8	15
Wollongong Macedonia	11	7	0	4	19	14	14
Newcastle Austral	13	5	2	6	13	10	12
Canterbury	10	4	3	3	12	9	11
Polonia	11	5	1	5	12	16	11
Warringah Freshwater	10	2	6	2	5	8	10
Inter Monaro	14	4	0	10	12	30	8
Sutherland	10	3	1	6	8	14	7
Rockdale Ilinden	9	2	1	6	8	14	5
Penrith Uruguay	9	0	1	8	5	22	1

U/19

Canberra Croatia	14	11	2	1	43	7	24
Melita Eagles	9	8	1	0	23	5	17
Avala	11	6	3	2	24	11	15
Canterbury	10	5	2	3	25	17	12
Newcastle Austral	10	2	6	2	16	14	10
Sutherland Shire	10	4	2	4	17	17	10
Rockdale Ilinden	9	3	2	4	17	20	8
Wollongong Mac	10	2	3	5	11	22	7
Warringah F'water	9	1	4	4	11	18	6
Inter Monaro	13	1	4	8	12	25	6
Polonia	8	1	3	4	6	18	5
Penrith Uruguay	7	0	0	7	3	34	0

Results

MELITA EAGLES 3 (G.Brown 2, Genc) POLONIA 1 (Kulwicki) at Melita Stadium.
NEWCASTLE AUSTRAL 2 (McWhirter, B.Porter) ROCKDALE ILINDEN 1 (S.Porter) at the Austral Park.
WARRINGAH FRESHWATER 0 CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE 0 at Cromer Park.
WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 3 (Kay, McKie, Fletcher) SUTHERLAND SHIRE 1 (McFadden) at Kelly Park.
INTER MONARO 1 (Alchin) CANBERRA CROATIA 3 (Cole 2, Lemezina) at Marco Polo.
URUGUAY PENRITH 0 AVALA 2 (Ackerley) at Kniht Park.

Top Scorers

10. Gary Cole (Canberra), 9. Greg Brown (Melita Eagles), 7. M.Perinovic, 6.Giampaolo (Inter), 5. Parison (Canterbury), Genc, Versi (Melita), Janduda (Polonia), B.Porter (Newcastle), G.Fletcher (Wollongong), 4. Oustambasidis (Canterbury), McKie (Wollongong),

NEW SOUTH WALES

STATE LEAGUE ONE		
Inter Monaro v Canberra Croatia	1-3	0-1
Warringah F'water v Canterbury	0-0	2-5
Melita Eagles v Polonia	3-1	1-0
Newcastle Austral v Rockdale	2-1	3-0
Penrith Uruguay v Avala	0-2	0-4
Wollongong Mac v Sutherland Shire	3-1	1-5
STATE LEAGUE TWO		
Campbelltown Vik' v Orange Waratah	2-1	w/o
North Shore Utd v Bathurst '75	4-1	3-3
Bankstown v Mt Druitt	1-2	2-2
Dulwich Hill v Gladesville	2-1	1-0
SSC Yugal v Waverley SC	0-0	0-6
Fairy Meadow v Sydney Macedonia	0-1	1-2
Granville Chile v Manly Warringah	1-0	1-1
Mt Druitt v Manly Warringah	2-10	2-1
Gladesville v Bathurst '75	1-0	2-4
Campbelltown Vik' v Waverley SC	1-1	2-1
Dulwich Hill v Sydney Macedonia	1-3	2-2
SSC Yugal v Fairy Meadow	0-2	2-2
Granville Chile v North Shore Utd	0-0	1-0
Bankstown v Orange Waratah	4-1	3-2
FEDERATION LEAGUE THREE		
Concordia v Central Coast	1-2	0-4
Uni of NSW v Canterbury District	1-0	1-1
Port Hacking v Hills United	2-0	1-3
Blacktown United v Mt Pritchard	0-5	0-7
Southern Districts v Moorebank L'pool	3-1	4-0
Rosebery Portugal v Rooty Hill/West Utd	3-1	4-2
Concordia v Uni of NSW	1-0	0-4
Southern Districts v Central Coast	2-1	2-1
Port Hacking v Canterbury District	1-0	1-2
Blacktown United v Hills United	0-5	0-4
Rosebery Portugal v Moorebank L'pool	5-0	3-2
Rooty Hill/West Utd v Mt Pritchard	1-0	0-0
FEDERATION LEAGUE FOUR		
Spanish Club v Fairfield Kiev	2-2	0-1
Croatia Juniors v North Ryde RSL	2-1	1-3
Eastwood St And v Nineveh Eagles	2-3	1-1
Cyprus United v Hawkesbury District	4-0	4-0
Spanish Club v Petersham Lusitanos	1-4	0-1
Transandinos v Fairfield Kiev	4-0	2-1
Hajduk Rangers v Padstow Park	1-1	0-0
FEDERATION LEAGUE FIVE		
Sydney University v Chile Sports	1-1	3-0
SSC Zagreb v Sporting Peru	2-2	1-1
Arncliffe v Macquarie University	3-1	for
Blacktown Wanderers v CSI Schofields	2-1	5-2
Colo Colo v Concord Juniors	4-2	0-2
FEDERATION LEAGUE SIX		
Prospect United v Sydney Lebanon	3-0	for
Alexander v Ashour Star	3-2	6-1
Abruzzi v Lithgow Workmens	1-1	1-0
Belmore Hercules v W.D Hellas	1-2	0-0
GNS United v Liverpool City	3-1	6-1
FEDERATION LEAGUE SEVEN		
AS Noantri v Korean	6-1	2-4
Pagewood Botany v Lemnos Allstars	2-0	0-0
Aust Romanian v Fogolar Furlan	1-1	0-6
Assyrian v Balmain PCYC	1-1	0-2
Luddenham Croatia v Liverpool Olympic	2-1	2-1

Cole the difference

BY GRAHAM COOKE

IF ever any ACT area soccer followers needed proof of the class of Canberra Croatia striker Gary Gole, they would have found it at the Marco Polo Ground on Sunday.

Cole was the difference between his side and Inter Monaro in a hard-fought and surprisingly even NSW State League derby game, paving the way for a 3-1 victory with two strikes in three minutes during the first half.

It was not so much the goals themselves — Cole scores them with monotonous regularity — but the manner in which they were taken which had the stamp of quality.

They were very different.

With half an hour gone and Monaro beginning to work itself into the game after a nervous opening, the big striker received the ball from a defelection off a Monaro defender near the edge of the penalty area.

Defender Angelo Titilas moved qickly to close him down but Cole, quickly sizing up the siutation, sent a clever chip over Titilas' head and those of the defenders behind him.

GARY COLE

Goalkeeper Darkos Pokas saw the danger too late and the ball dropped behind him under the bar and into the net.

Three minutes later and Cole got his second, a much more typical effort on the run following an excellent throughball from player-coach Tom Sermanni.

The finishing was clinical — Pokas had no chance.

If there was any hope for Monaro, now it lay in a quick reply.

It got just that when almost straight from the kick-off Crag Alchin made up for some recent near-misses by fastening on to a Bas Giampaolo cross and whacking the ball along the ground and past Peter Gunning.

For four minutes the action had been breathtaking and it was, perhaps, inevitable that things should quieten down.

In fact, the rest of the first half and a good deal of the second was flat.

While most of the play flowed Croatia's way, Monaro was doing enough to give its supporters some hope of a much needed point.

That hope died with four minutes remaiming.

Alan Reis, pushing foward far more than in recent games, slipped a cross to Tony Lemezina who, with his back to the goal, sent an overhead kick flying into the corner of the Monaro net.

INTER MONARO: Pokas, Monterosso, (T Popovich 57m), Thompson, Santolin, Titilas, Carbone, Djordjeski (Brennan 82m), Alchin, N Popovich, Ambrosino, Giampaolo.

CANBERRA CROATIA: Gunning, Marcina, Mazis, Dunn, Young, Kulscar, Sermanni, Cole, Perinovic, Reis (Dukic 82m), Gagetti (Lemezina 71m).

Referee: P Spiers. Crowd: 802.

Wollongong Macedonia dilemma

ONE of the big stories at the start of the season was: "Will Wollongong field two clubs in the 1989/90 NSL?"

With Wollongong City already there, the feeling was widespread that Wollongong Macedonia was on the move.

Players such as John Cavanah, Paul Kay, Adam Sandy, Martin Bourke, John McKie, Graeme Fletcher, and Brett Thornthwaite were enlisted.

Casey de Bruin, former State League star and Blacktown City coach, was signed to lead the charge.

But now the Macedonians are floundering.

Athough well placed in the NSW State League, their chances of heading Melta Eagles, Canberra Croatia and Avala are vanishing.

And indeed Polonia and Canterbury are snapping at their heels.

De Bruin faces the need to cull through the playing staff for 1990, but the question rumains as to whether the club could summons up its sinews for NSL play in any case.

The region is widely believed to only be capable of supporting one major club.

— PHIL MARTIN

No change at the top

CANBERRA Croatia and Melita Eagles continued their battle for the State League honours with identical 3-1 wins last Sunday.

Canberra disposed of Inter Monaro at the Marco Polo ground, while Melita struggled past Polonia at Melita Stadium.

A tight battle at the top sees Melita holding an edge over its Canberra foe having four games in hand.

Gary Cole, Canberra's barnstorming striker, scored twice to keep his place at the top of the sharpshooters' list with 10 goals.

Melita striker Greg Brown did likewise at Melita Stadium to be one goal off the pace.

But Brown must be licking his boots with those extra games to come.

Canberra's target man Marko Perinovic has gone off the boil, having gone goaless for five games.

Graeme Fletcher

Wollongong Macedonia is back on track to challenge the leading duo after its 3-1 win over Sutherland.

Paul Kay, Graeme Fletcher and John McKie scored as Macedonia sauntered past Sutherland at Kelly Park.

Avala stayed in third spot with an effortless 2-0 victory over last-placed Uruguay Penrith with Chris Ackerley, the Australian Youth team striker, netting twice.

Warringah Freshwater and Canterbury Marrickville battled out a 0-0 draw with neither side ready to make a huge impression on the leading bunch.

Newcastle Austral had to struggle against Rockdale in the closing stages to keep its nose in front after leading 2-0 early in the second period.

The Novocastrians looked set for an easy victory as Brett Porter shot past Keith Warren to grab the second goal.

But a great Rockdale revival reaped one goal, a late penalty by Stuart Porter.

N.S.W. FIRST DIVISION with ALEX VESIC

Chris Ackerley nails target

AVALA's young striker Chris Ackerley scored twice to steer his side to a 2-0 victory over Uruguay Penrith at Knight Park last Sunday.

The win kept Avala within reach of the leading duo and with a fair chance of challenging for a place in the NSL.

Uruguay almost had Avala on the ropes after a strong showing in the opening period.

An Andrew Brockbank tackle on Drago Zulj in the fifth minute gave Uruguay its best opportunity to post a score as the referee pointed to the penalty spot.

But Mathew Bourke failed miserably sending his weak shot way past the post.

Avala's keeper Greg Woodhouse performed some acrobatics to deny Bernie Volloder in the 40th and 41st before Ackerley, almost against the run of play, put Avala in front.

Ackerley hit the crossbar in the 43rd but made amends a minute later as a shot from Vince Nastoski was parried by Carlos Zabala and the Australian Youth international stormed forward to score.

A David Fitzharris cross in the 68th was met by young Ackerley with great precision to seal Avala's comfortable victory.

Uruguay showed some zest and enterprise in the first half, particulary in the opening 20 minutes led by Drago Zulj, Salvatore Zulo and Xavier Pou, but faded during the second session.

Avala, very strong at the back with its captain Woodhouse in superb form, must find more enterprise in attack if it is to make an impression on the leading pair.

AVALA: Woodhouse, Quarmby, Brockbank, Henderson, Ashton, Gendle, Berry, Nastoski, Ackerley (Driene), Radovic, Fitzharris.

URUGUAY PENRITH: Zabala (Carvajal), Bailey, Zulj, Gonzalez, Zulo, Bourke, Pou, Radic, Dimeski, Volloder (Clavijo), Moffett.

NSW ADDITIONAL FIXTURES

DIVISION 2 WED JULY 19			
Manly	v	Yugal	Cromer Park
Gladesville	v	Dulwich Hill	Bensley Rd
FRI JULY 21			
Gladesville	v	North Shore	Francis Park 8.15pm
SAT JULY 22			
Dulwich Hill	v	Waverley	St George Stad
Fairy Meadow	v	Campbelltown	Brandon Park
Bankstown	v	Sydney Mac	Potts Park
Manly	v	Granville	Cromer Park
SSC Yugal	v	Mt Druitt	Mona Park
Orange	v	Bathurst	Waratah S/G
DIVISION 3 WED JULY 19			
Concordia	v	Mt Pritchard	Syd Athletic F
THURS JULY 20			
Hills Utd	v	Port Hacking	Caterson Res.
SAT JULY 22			
Rooty Hill	v	Southern Dist	Harold Read Res
Central Coast	v	Uni of NSW	Pluim Park
Concordia	v	Blacktown Utd	Arlington Oval
Cant & Dist	v	Moorebank	Mackey Park
Port Hacking	v	Rosebery	Seymour Shaw
Mt Pritchard	v	Hills United	Mt Pritchard Cplx

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION LTD

N.S.W.

This Week's Matches

SUNDAY JULY 23			
DIVISION 1 — R18			
Avala	v	Inter Monaro	Knight Park
Canberra Croatia	v	Warringah F'water	Deakin Oval
Canterbury M'ville	v	Melita Eagles	Arlington Oval
Polonia	v	Rockdale Ilinden	Chopin Park
Sutherland Shire	v	Uruguay Penrith	Seymour Shaw
Wollongong Mac	v	Newcastle Austral	JJ Kelly
DIVISION 2 (R22)			
Waverley	v	Dulwich Hill	Sydney Athletic Field
Gladesville	v	Campbelltown	Campbell Park
Sydney Mac	v	SSC Yugal	Jensen Park
Mt Druitt	v	Granville	Popondetta Park
Manly	v	Fairy Meadow	Cromer Park
North Shore	v	Bankstown	Parklands Oval
DIVISION 3 (R18)			
Moorebank	v	Blacktown Utd	Hammondville Park
Hills United	v	Southern Dist	Fred Caterson Res
Central Coast	v	Port Hacking	Pluim Park
Cant & Dist	v	Concordia	Mackey Park
Mt Pritchard	v	Rosebery	Mt Pritchard Cplx
Rooty Hill	v	Uni of NSW	Harold Read Res

NOTE FOR SATURDAY FIXTURES IN DIVISION 2 and 3 SEE SEPARATE PANEL

Kick-off times: First grade 3pm, Under 19 1pm, unless otherwise stated.

See a top State League match this week!

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Failure dogs formerly triumphant Brian Garvey

MELBOURNE EDITOR GREG BLAKE HITS GARVEY WITH THE HARD QUESTIONS

A unanimous 36 out of 36 soccer scribes Australia-wide predicted 1988 boom team South Melbourne Hellas would play off again in this year's finals series.

The young glamour team of 1988 had, after all, trounced all comers in Victoria in the pre-season Buffalo Gold Cup and, despite two successive finals defeats last year, the experts were certain the experience would ready South Melbourne for another solid campaign.

With all the hype and hysteria surrounding arguably this country's most distinguished club, there were few who doubted Hellas wouldn't be a walk up start for the finals.

The expected improvement didn't come — Hellas failed and now Brian Garvey and his players will be looking on as the big-guns fight it out for the title.

Already the post-mortems have begun and, not surprisingly, there is speculation about coach Garvey's future at Middle Park.

Who is to blame for South Melbourne's failure and is Garvey's job on the line?

I put these and other questions that need to be answered to Garvey in the first of an occasional series of features that will appear over coming months.

Q: Brian, South Melbourne has missed the finals when it probably shouldn't have. Have you failed?

A: It does look that way and it has been a great disappointment. But when you say a failure you have got to look at the circumstances that made it happen.

Q: I know injuries to key players have played a part and that you weren't able to buy the players you wanted at the start of the season. But couldn't I put it to you that they are just excuses and that every team has these sort of problems?

A: When I've asked the players certain things they come up with reasons and sometimes I believe there is a difference between reasons and excuses. I try to weigh things up and think that if it's an excuse I don't use it. Sometimes there are genuine reasons.

Q: Now that Hellas has missed the finals will Brian Garvey go home and look in the mirror and ask himself what he has done wrong?

A: Yes, that's right. You've got to look at yourself first and see why you haven't been as successful as you'd have hoped to be. I look at myself first, then at the players and see what we could have done so the same mistakes won't happen next time.

Q: Are you disappointed with some of your players performances this year?

A: Yes I am disappointed. The thing is that we've scored a lot of goals this year and we've finished about third highest scoring team in the league and yet our defence is about third worst. To me we've got a good defence, as good as Marconi's, and yet we just haven't performed as well as we could have done.

Q: But how can you say you believe you've got a good defence and then say your defenders have been the players who let you down?

A: Look, Bruce MacLaren must be one of the best in Australia, Dave (Healy) and Angie (Postecoglou) are two good full-backs, Steve Blair must be the best centre-back in the country and Paul Fernandes is a good covering player. That is a good defence. But when we have tended to struggle it's been because of indecision at the back, and we've also tended to struggle when we've had a bit of pace against us.

Q: Losing isn't very popular at South Melbourne. Do you care if you're not too popular at this time?

A: Yes, I do, of course. It certainly helps when you're popular. This is a problem in that last year we had such a good season for the club, myself and individual players that missing the finals this year has been much more disappointing that it would do normally.

Q: Does missing the finals hurt you personally?

A: It does. Only a few weeks ago I told the players that we must make the finals because I hate not being involved. I hate seeing the other teams involved when we've missing out.

Q: Brian Garvey was flavour of the month with the press last year and at various times this year when the team was winning. I get the impression you have a healthy disregard of the press.

A: They've got a job to do. Sometimes I think they're a little bit too busy chasing headlines and often I think the way the press puts things over is not the way you'd like them to be put over. But I guess that's the way certain members of the press interprete things.

Q: Is the press irresponsible?

BRIAN GARVEY

A: I think now and again yes. To get a headline they often make things difficult for a club or a player.

Q: Do you read your own press and do you take any of it to heart?

A: No, although naturally I read all I can about soccer and about the club or myself. I've learned through 20 or 30 years in soccer that you can't take the glory too high or the disappointments too low.

Q: The press suggested that there was trouble within the ranks at Hellas this year. Has there been unrest amongst the players?

A: No, that has been one of the good things this year. The players have all tended to get on well together and they've generally been in good spirit. The biggest problem has been a lack of confidence. Half the team are confident players and when things are going well they are really bubbling. When things are struggling it's difficult for them.

Q: How's Brian Garvey's confidence — do you still believe in yourself?

A: I feel at bit down at the moment. This season has been harder for me than last year and yet the success I've gotten from it has been less. I've still got the desire to make South Melbourne Hellas a top five team and I want to do everything possible to get us there but I wonder whether the players want to, whether they've had the desire to.

Q: How will you establish whether your players still do have that desire?

A: It's difficult, all you can do is keep talking to them ad putting across to them what you think are the right things over a period of time. We have got a lot of young players in the team and it will take them two or three years to get the necessary experience.

Q: You've got a pretty good record with introducing young players to the league. Are you satisfied with that aspect of your performance?

A: Yes, that is pleasing. I get the impression that it didn't happen very much years ago, but now the introduction of young players is becoming far more common and local players are getting a chance.

Q: If you are good with young players there has also been the suggestion that you find it difficult to deal with the egos of older, more established players. Would that be correct?

A: I must admit I'm not one for what I call the star player — the one who thinks he's the bee's knees, one who won't put in most weeks. I don't tolerate them.

Q: You'd rather not have a big-headed player then?

A: Yes. Often you get a player who thinks he's bigger than the team and that's the type of player I don't like.

Q: There was a situation recently with the player from Scotland, Gordon Dalziel. What is the story behind his leaving after just two games as a substitute.

A: I thought I was doing the right thing by letting him settle in and putting him on as a sub for a couple of games. It was different expectations I think. He came over believing he would go straight into the team and I didn't see it that way. We'd had some good results and the players had done well. He looked good enough but I think he just decided that he'd be better off back in Scotland. The player himself didn't mention anything to me.

Q: Was he a big-head for wanting to go straight into the team?

A: No, the way I saw him was that he had a good character and good personality and a fair bit of ability. Basically, it was the club or the committee who did most of the talking. It happened very quickly. I had him sub in one game and after that he never came training. A week after that he was on his way back to Scotland.

Q: How would you describe yourself as a coach?

A: Hardworking. I try and work with the committee and players and try and understand the problems they have got.

Q: Are you an aloof man?

A: Yes. I am generally like that in my normal life as well. I'm not one to praise too much or to criticise too much — I try to be level-headed.

Q: Do you believe your job is on the line?

A: Could be, yes. That's certainly a possibility. We haven't reached the top five and Hellas demands success. We won the Buffalo Cup but the main purpose of the season was to make the Top Five and we haven't achieved that. There would be thoughts that Brian Garvey has been at the club for three years and hasn't won a championship.

Q: Would you be angry if you lost the job?

A: I'd be disappointed, not angry.

Q: Would you be leaving the job half finished?

A: I had something to do with most of the players coming to the club with the exception of just two. I certainly haven't achieved as much as I'd have like to do.

Q: If you left South Melbourne would you want to continue coaching in the NSL. Do you still enjoy coaching?

A: I enjoy my soccer but having to rely on the game for my main income is a bit of a problem and it's much better, I think, to be a part-time coach. If things did go wrong I'd start to think that it's time to get out of soccer on a full-time basis.

I've been in soccer most of my life — I couldn't do without it completely.

Q: What's the future for South Melbourne — will you make any promises for next year?

A: Next year is too far off yet. Well, when I say that it's too far off, I mean from the point of view that we don't know how things are going to develop with this season finishing so soon and the next starting in November. It's going to make for a difficult situation for everybody.

Q: You're an advocate of attacking soccer but do you believe, in the long run, that this could be a failing?

A: No, it's not a failing. These are the types of players we've got at the club and when they are at their best it is an attacking type of team.

Q: Does it anger you to see teams of possibly lesser ability playing in the finals?

A: It all comes down to results and points. We can't say we're that good and that we should be there when other teams have got there on merit.

Q: Would you radically alter South's playing style to make the team more competitive?

A: Not radically. But there have been games where the players should have not just gone out there and played, but should have gone out to play for points. The players still haven't learned enough about how to earn points when they're needed and there has been games that, just by being more organised and responsible, we could have picked up points.

Q: Could you produce the same type of attacking side at, say, Sunshine or Blacktown. Do players make coaches or vice-versa?

A: It's players that make coaches. The typical example was last year where I developed the team, but it was the players who played so well and got results and entertained. So much so that I won Coach of the Year.

Q: Who will win the NSL this year?

A: I think Marconi. They've been at the top most of the season and they deserve it. Marconi are another attacking team, I like the way they play.

Q: You seem to be a quietly spoken man. Will we ever see Brian Garvey do a 'Malcolm Allison' and say something a bit controversial?

A: No. Every coach has got his own style and even though you can learn from others you've got to be yourself. This is the way I am.

Q: No matter what is said to you, you refuse to say anything even mildly controversial?

A: No.

Q: Do you think you'd make a good politician with that attitude?

A: No way — that's too tough a game for me.

GB: Best of luck Brian Garvey.

BG: Thanks.

No blame for coach

BY ANDY KUN

I have a lot of concern for the National team, and in particular the maintaining of the fitness of the players.

It is easy to blame the national coach if something goes wrong, but he cannot arrange this department without a lot of help from his assistants and also club coaches.

This time around there is very little break between seasons, and the players are going to have to turn out in hot conditions.

I really wonder whether playing in extreme heat will be beneficial, if that is the way it turns out.

The fall away of some of the leading Melbourne teams in the NSL over recent weeks had its genesis in the bad handling of players.

Those who have been in the Socceroo squad have simply given too much. They are not fulltime professionals.

I would like to see the NSL Cup given more prominence, and will be interested to see what the NSL comes up with.

As a final point, I notice that Ian Brusasco brought former international cricketer Ron Archer in as a commissioner.

There should be room for Eric Heath of Victoria in such a gathering, as he is a very experienced administrator.

ORDER ASW AT YOUR NEWSAGENT

JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

Zlatko Nastevski doing what he did best this year — scoring for all-conquering minor premiers Marconi.

Marconi, by the proverbial mile

MARCONI's runaway minor premiership win has been one of the most convincing on record.

With one round remaining they were six points clear of second placed Saints, and that margin could be stretched to eight points depending on the final round results.

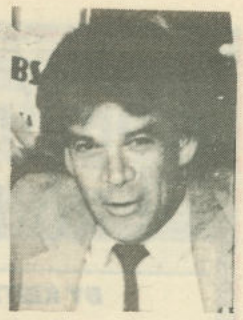
The previous largest margin between first and second was in 1982 when premiers Sydney City (45 points) won from Saints (36 points).

Should Marconi win their final match it would also enable them to equal Sydney City's record-breaking number of points in 1982 — i.e. adjusted to the number of games played Sydney City in '82 and Marconi this year won 75% of available points.

In the goalscoring stakes Marconi scored more prolifically this year than any other NSL side . . . 2.38 goals per game (not including the last round) as compared, again, with the previous best by Sydney City in 1982 with 2.21 goals per game.

Zlatko Nastevski's 20 goals from 25 games is marginally ahead of John Kosmina with the record number of goals (23) in 1982, although Kossie played 30.

To pay or not to pay — *that is the question*



THE new ASF commission's decision to introduce a levy on all players has, not unexpectedly, met with some opposition.

The various junior associations are crying the loudest, and in these difficult economic times one must sympathise with them.

Despite this expected resistance I support the ASF Commission. After all a $1 levy per player is not a great deal to ask and it is after all vital that the ASF has the means to heavily subsidise the various national teams.

It can then hopefully put into place an administrative organisation which can secure its own sponsorships, market its own game, and generally improve our code of football's status in an ever demanding sporting scene.

Without the Socceroos, the Young Socceroos, the Joeys and an Olympic team we are really up against it in the publicity stakes.

We also have nothing for the kids to aim for if these teams are inactive or, for financial reasons, prevented from competing in the various tournaments.

Unfortunately, they are all expensive exercises and without a fairy godmother on the horizon it is really up to us, all those actively involved in the game as players, coaches, referees, administrators and fans, to provide the financial backing to make bigger and better things happen.

Again, I realise and understand the outcry at the levy.

But again, $1 is a small price to pay . . .

Gumnut babe scores

Radio 2UE's "Sports Today" presenter Peter Bossley has always been sympathetic to Australian soccer.

That trend could well continue as Peter's young son, 8-year-old Craig, makes a name for himself as a goalscorer.

Young Craig scored EIGHT goals last weekend for his junior club, the Forestville Gumnuts, in his team's 10-0 win.

★★★

Former Canberra City director Steve Doszpot is getting some excellent mileage from his weekly soccer segment on Radio 2CN in Canberra . . . every Saturday at 12.30pm.

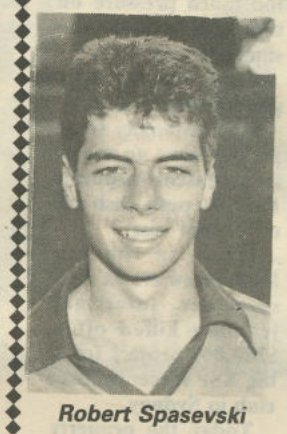
★★★

There is some doubt as to whether the NSW State League will stage its Top Five final series this year.

The season has already been put back two weeks and further delays in completing the season may make it impossible to complete the season in adequate time for the winner, which will be automatically promoted to the NSL, to prepare for the NSL "summer" kick-off on November 5.

Raul Blanco — will his Melita Eagles strut their stuff in the NSW State League final series?

Aussies' low U16 rating



Robert Spasevski

Andrew French

ON the third under 16 World Cup staged *in Scotland...*

A total of 182,000 spectators paid to watch the series, with 52,000 at the Scotland-Saudi Arabia final at Hampden Park — all in all three times the budgeted attendance figures.

Bahrain beat Scotland for first place in the Fair Play Award.

Australia was rated 14th in the series — the honour roll reading Saudi Arabia, Scotland, Portugal, Bahrain, Nigeria, Brazil, East Germany, Argentina, Guinea, USA, China, Ghana, Colombia, Australia, Cuba and Canada.

Only two red cards were issued in the 32 matches — one to China and one to Saudi Arabia, both as a result of previous yellow cards.

Italian interlude

SBS Television's Les Murray, Dominic Galati, Austin Steele and Tony Palumbo will travel to Italy in September for a five-week working tour in preparation for next year's massive coverage of the World Cup finals.

Apart from research and finalising a host of details, the SBS boys will be involved in shooting background material on the twelve Italian cities and their respective stadia.

Andy Paschalidis and Les Murray — part of SBS-TV's World Cup team.

SYDNEY RULED THE ROOST

WHILE the top five in the NSL was up for grabs at the time of writing this column it is again dominated by Sydney clubs.

In the old days it was said that "poker machine" money enabled Sydney to buy and provide the best.

That argument in recent years does not hold any water as the licensed club industry has long stopped being a licence to print money.

Yet Sydney still dominates despite the Socceroos, in recent times, being dominated by Victorian players.

The history of the NSL also shows Sydney has been by far the stronger of the two cities as a brief look at the top five in past one division NSL tables indicates:

1977
Sydney City
Marconi
Heidelberg
Adelaide City
Western Suburbs

1978
West Adelaide
Sydney City
South Melbourne
Marconi
Heidelberg

1979
Marconi
Heidelberg
Sydney City
Brisbane City
Adelaide City

1980
Sydney City
Heidelberg
South Melbourne
Marconi
Adelaide City

1981
Sydney City
South Melbourne
Brisbane City
Apia
Canberra City

1982
Sydney City
St George
Wollongong
Heidelberg
Preston

1983
St George
Sydney City
Preston
South Melourne
Newcastle
Years 1984-85 and 86 were run with two divisions

1987
Apia
Preston
St George
Marconi
Sydney Croatia

1988
Wollongong
Sydney Croatia
South Melbourne
Marconi
Sydney Olympic

From frying pan into the fire

BY KEITH GILMOUR

EVEN after allowing for the ability that resides in the new five man Australian Soccer Federation commissioners, they must see that the right irons go into the fire.

It is one thing to raise funds from $350,000 in capitation fees — should that turn out to be within the realm of possibility — in order to build the revenues.

But the other imperative must be examined more closely, and that is to reduce expenditures.

They must guard against mistakes that will damage their credibility.

For instance if most of the NSL airfares received the chop due to concentration on State League or two 10 team divisions in 1990/91, then $500,000 could be wiped off NSL expenses.

As that is unlikely to happen at present — an average of 2500 or so spectators at home games every second week bringing in $10,000 for a fortnight's income as against one away interestate trip costing say $4500 is the unhappy norm apart from wages and other costs — then these expenses stand.

But the commissioners can shave costs in other ways. The returns would be solid but not as spectacular.

Office space is readily available at NSW headquarters at Parklea.

The rent would be very reasonable, and partitioning would be required wherever the ASF goes when they leave Clarence St and the $52,000 p.a. rental.

Horror of horrors! NSW would then put too much pressure on the ASF will be the simplistic cry.

Come on! Set up a good economical deal.

If occasionally some people have to travel from Mascot Airport to Parklea, petty cash will cover that cost.

Once, in the Ian McAndrew era as ASF secretary, interstate jealousy killed off a $200,000 project for a big ASF soccer licensed club in Sydney.

Today the property would be worth $5 million at least and the ASF would have had a regular source of funds instead of attempting to prise open the kiddies' piggy banks for levies to support the national team effort.

So much for the short-sighted planning that helped to kill the game.

Don't let opposition from some states destroy common sense.

They will themselves gain in the short run and the longer run.

Some states with ASF votes, if they examine themselves truthfully, are very small shows.

It is time they were prepared to see the big picture and go for practical progress.

And as for NSW, stop hiding your light behind a bushel.

Go out and sell the states, because cringing in the shadows will get the sport nowhere.

And, ASF management, prepare to change your views. In the days of fax and computers and telephone ticket booking, distance has limited meaning.

Make bold, sensible recommendations and the overwhelming chances are that they will be accepted.

NSW has considerable computer capacity, which can be tapped.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

Slifkas walkout stuns Preston Makedonia club

BY GREG BLAKE

PRESTON Makedonia's promising Young Socceroo midfielder George Slifkas has walked out on the club and faces disciplinary action for breaking his contract.

The 19-year-old, who made his Preston debut in 1986, has quit the club in frustration at not being able to cement a place in the first team.

"I'll almost certainly be looking for a new club next year," Slifkas told me.

"There's a chance I could go back — maybe we could work something out.

"But at this stage I've asked for a clearance to train elsewhere and at the moment I'm training on my own."

Slifkas has been refused permission to train elsewhere by Preston and the club is refusing to consider losing the player.

Preston team manager John Gloufchev said Slifkas had already been fined by the club for his walkout, and that Preston would be approaching the NSL to take disciplinary action.

"Obviously we want to keep him — there is no way we would want to lose a young player with his sort of talent," Gloufchev explained.

"But there are no guarantees about a spot in the first team.

"He has to fight his way into the team like everyone else."

Slifkas believes he hasn't had the chance to prove himself a worthy first team player.

"It's obvious that I don't fit into the plans of the coach because I've only had three full games for the year," he said.

"Being used as a substitute you begin to feel stale.

"I want to play, not just watch.

"I've played here on and off for three years and I've never been a regular.

"They've never given me a chance to establish myself in the team.

"If I'm not good enough, then let me to go to another club."

Fireworks promised in Cup semi-final

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC coach Eddie Thomson, despite having four injured players for tonight's NSL Cup semi-final clash against Apia at the St George Stadium, is going flat out to crack the "magic double"

Thomson badly wants to win both the NSL Cup and the Top Five Series.

Sydney Olympic has won the NSL Cup twice (1983 and 1985) but have never won the NSL championship.

"Maybe this year will be lucky for us," Thomson said last night.

But Thomson's assault on the 'double' is being severely hampered by injuries and too many matches to his playing staff of late.

Olympic have four injured players after last Sunday's match against Heidelberg, including hard-tackling midfielder Gary Phillips, who is definitely out with a bad back injury.

Both Olympic fullbacks, Davie Barrett and Steve Georgakis, are carrying thigh injuries whilst attacking right midfielder Grant Lee collected a nasty knock to his right ankle last Sunday and had it immediately packed in ice.

Thomson told me: "I could be forced to bring in Tony Dakos, Mike McGarry, Eric Hrist and Steve Refenes, but now I find that even Refenes has and injured foot.

"Apia beat us in the League in Round 1 but we reversed this result in the return game."

To qualify for tonight's semi-final, Sydney Olympic defeated St George 6-3 and Marconi 3-1.

Apia qualified by eliminating Sydney Croatia 2-1 and Wollongong City by the same scoreline.

Apia coach Michael Urukalo said last night: "I will be bringing back into the side striker Rod Brown and sweeper Mirko Radosavljevic, who both missed last Sunday's 1-1 draw with Wollongong City.

"No matter what, I promise Olympic will know they've been in a match."

Adelaide City has already qualified for the Cup final which will be played in Adelaide if Apia wins tonight, or in Sydney if Olympic come out victors.

NSL CUP SEMI-FINAL

THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT

July 19 — 7.30pm Kick-off

JASON POLAK

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

VERSUS

APIA L'HARDT

TONY PEZZANO

CUP THRILLS! FINALIST DECIDED — ADELAIDE CITY

at ST GEORGE STADIUM

BESTIC STREET ROCKDALE

YOUTH LEAGUE SYD. OLYMPIC V APIA KICK-OFF 5.30PM

ABC-TV SPORT

South Australia Foundation South Australia

mitre sports balls

Vic Health Victorian Health Promotion Foundation

THE DRUG OFFENSIVE A Federal and State initiative

INSURANCE EXCHANGE OF AUSTRALIA IEA

Ansett.

National Heart Foundation

Quit

1989 NSL TOP FIVE SERIES

THIS SUNDAY

ST GEORGE STADIUM

PRELIMINARY SEMI-FINAL

KICK-OFF 2.30PM

ST GEORGE vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC

FRANK AROK

ANDY KOCZKA

ROBBIE HOOKER

EDDIE THOMSON

THIS SUNDAY

OLYMPIC PARK

ELIMINATION SEMI-FINAL

KICK-OFF 2.30PM

Preston Mak vs Melb Croatia

JOHN MARKOVSKI

GEORGE PETROV

ALAN DAVIDSON

ZELJKO ADZIC

ABC-TV
ABC SPORT

Victorian Health Promotion Foundation

A Federal and State initiative

Ansett.

National Heart Foundation

Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . .

The black and white vertical striped jersey betrays this sultry damsel as a follower of Adelaide City. How did she regard this season's efforts?

THERE is a strong opinion in evidence that the weakened Socceroo team which appeared for the Adamstown Rosebud Centenary should never have been labelled as the actual national team.

In former years they would he been called "an Australian XI," and the ASF would do well to consider reverting to this in future.

SCOTT OLLERENSHAW, St George's 21 year old striker with Socceroo experience, will be staying with the club for the time being.

With the 1989/90 Australian season to end in May, he expects to trial in the UK by June.

★★★

ALTHOUGH Doug Collins won't be with Wollongong City for the new season, he told respected Wollongong journalist Brian Surtees that there should be a clean up of some of the players ready for next season.

★★★

REPORTS indicate that 2UE talkman ARCH TAMBAKIS stated that he and Harry Michaels would be taking over Apia Leichhardt, with Eddie Thomson the likely coach.

★★★

AVALA club has received approval from Fairfield Council for its new football ground, located at the Serbian Centre at Cabramatta. Asuming that all objections have now been overcome, the club will now have its own home.

Fencing and a full international size ground are in place, and club secretary Jack Cirjanic says dressing rooms have been planned.

★★★

BERTI MARIANI, the highly respected Marconi coach, has reached the heights without having formal coaching qualifications.

But he has a degree in physical education and a psychology major to help him along the way.

★★★

WITH the summer NSL on the way, there will be a new approach to referees' appointments.

The idea is to have only the very top men handling fixtures, a position more easily achieved as there will be no call for their services at State League games.

The other side of the coin is that some up and comers will need to be tried out in the top league to prove whether they have what it takes.

★★★

OUTSTANDING on SBS Television was a piece on Les Murray's Sports Report on the need to upgrade coaching of kiddies in the skills of the game.

To the fore were Richard Alagich of Pacific Soccer Camps, and Gary and Simon Ireland with their demonstration of the Wiel Coerver coaching methods.

Some of the youngsters too revealed remarkable skills.

★★★

AT only 27 years of age, former Socceroo Peter Raskopoulos has decided to hang up his boots.

This year he has only made a handful of appearances with Sydney Olympic, but he feels that he has been too injury prone to continue.

At his very best 'Rasko' was an outstanding midfielder general, and all will wish him well playing in all-age ranks to enjoy a social game.

★★★

SEAN INGHAM, who has been finishing the season with Wollongong City, has every reason to rue turning out for Adamstown Rosebud in the Centenary game last week.

The exhibition match had barely started when he suffered cruciate and medial ligament damage that will see him out of action for an entire season.

It was particularly ironic that he was playing a special match back in his home town of Newcastle.

THE chances of Paul Trimboli joining Marconi for next season might not be as bright as has been indicated in the Sydney press.

He is about to commence the second year of a two-year contract with South Melbourne.

Last year he deferred the final year of a degree course.

★★★

BETWEEN 1970 and 1976 George Stamatakis played with Canterbury club in Sydney.

He has been visiting Sydney recently as coach of Greek First Division club, Patra, in the company of George Kologeras, the assistant coach of Panathinaikos.

Kalogeras formerly coached both Pan Hellenic and Canterbury in the NSW State League.

Of course, they don't visit Sydney just for the sake of their health.

They have been vetting the local Greek market, aiming to find players of the quality of Jim Patikas and Lou Hristodoulou.

★★★

If there is a hero to be found in the Melbourne JUST ranks this season look no further than Mehmet Durakovic.

Durakovic, at the club on loan from Juventus for the season, has played his last two games despite the threat of a burst appendix.

Durakovic was told by a doctor to have his appendix out but the gutsy defender decided to go ahead and play on to try and steer the club clear of relegation.

Abbas Saad has now settled in well and is proving a capable striker with Sydney Olympic. Here he is pictured with his young niece Fay.

John Kologeras, one-time coach of Pan Hellenic and Canterbury and now assistant coach of Panathiniakos of Greece, with Frank Arok.

ACROSS THE TASMAN

NEW Zealand's leading coaches, including All White supremo Ian Marshall, are pleased with FIFA's decision to include New Zealand and Australian in the Asian Confederation.

They consider it will *boost the Kiwis'* chances of making the World Cup finals again.

"We've always held our own against the Asian countries," said Marshall.

★★★

FIFA coach Heinz Marotzke is in New Zealand directing training sessions for the New Zealand under 15s.

He will also conduct courses in the Waitako area.

★★★

Newly-appointed New Zealand coach Ian Marshall has appointed former All White skipper Steve Sumner and former Watford professional Keith Pritchett as his assistant coaches.

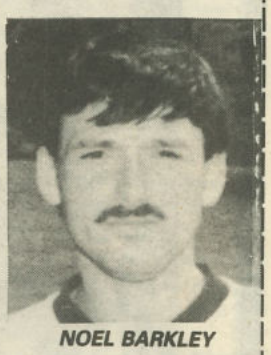
★★★

All Whites striker Noel Barkley scored five goals for his club, Video City Mount Wellington, against Hutt Valley United.

Barkley scored a goal in both World Cup qualifiers against the Socceroos.

★★★

NEW Zealand international striker Wynton Rufer is on holiday somewhere in Kenya, unaware his move from Swiss club Grasshoppers Zurich back to Wellington team Miramar Rangers has fallen through.



NOEL BARKLEY

Miramar failed to pay the transfer fee within the time stipulated by Grasshoppers and manager Erich Vogel said yesterday *the deal was off.*

Rufer scored 18 goals last season for Grasshoppers, the runners-up in the Swiss First Division.

WELL known is Marconi's former Socceroo star midfielder, Tom McCulloch.

But today's picture is of his father George, in action at Wentworth Park, in the days in which he was one of the big names of Pan Hellenic, predecessor of the Sydney Olympic club.

After missing a deal of the season with a leg injury, referee Gary Power returned to the ranks to handle the Sydney Croatia vs Preston game on July 9. Power is the NSW Referees and Schools Liaison Officer. Pic: HECTOR CARRASCO.

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GREG RUSSELL REPORTS

KIERAN COOPER DOES A LAZARUS FOR BRISCITY

BRISBANE City striker Kieran Cooper has done one of the great alltime turn arounds to resume playing for Brisbane City, only a fortnight after vowing to sit out the remainder of the season.

Cooper returned to the fold at Spencer Park after an attempt by Second Division club Acacia Ridge to sign him for $5000 had failed, when City demanded $30,000 for the player who had been the XXXX League leading scorer for the past two years.

Cooper had requested to go on the transfer list after being dropped from the first team. He said his dropping was not the reason, he just wanted to get away from Spencer Park.

"I am tired of City and need a change," Cooper said.

"It would be in City's best interest to let me go, but if they are prepared to stuff me around then I doubt if I'll play again".

What was said to Cooper is unknown, but just days after his headline grabbing statements had been featured in the media, he announced all was resolved and turned out for the club's reserves and sat on the first bench the following Sunday.

"I have a lot of respect for Sam Pappalardo (the city president) and after talking with him, I've decided to stick out the season and try to get back to my best," Cooper said.

While Cooper's decision ended Acacia Ridge's hopes of compensations for the transfer deadline loss of Brad Ryan to Easts and Frank Marenic to Croatia, his decision enabled City to finish with a win one, lose one score at the transfer deadline.

Amateur player John Figliano won an appeal to the QSF Council of Clubs to gain a release to play with Easts after City had attempted to hold the teenager at Spencer Park.

Figliano gained the majority support at the meeting when he read a letter from the club advising he would only be released if he signed semi-professional terms.

Figliano argued that the conditions were a contradiction. The gathering of club delegates was told it appeared City wanted to keep Figliano at Spencer Park while he was an amateur, but were prepared to loan him to another club if he signed a blue form.

"I don't want to sign a blue form, I just want to stay as an amateur and leave Brisbane City," Figlano said.

Although the QSF constitution binds amateur players to their signed club until the end of November, the Council of Clubs sided with Figliano and overturned a management committee decision to back City and allowed the former youth player to switch to Easts.

Follow all the Soccer action every week with AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY. We bring you the local scene — at all levels — and the world. Order your copy at your newsagent now!

Mengotti misses first Origin jersey

FRANK MENGOTTI

QUEENSLAND State of Origin hopes of beating NSW have received a setback with the news that versatile Brisbane Lions defender Frank Mengotti is likely to miss the match.

Mengotti, the 1987 Queensland Player of the Year, has a serious groin injury and is expected to be sidelined for at least a month.

The 27-year-old defender was expected to be a key player in the Queensland side because of his ability to slot into any role along the back four, or even as a striker if needed.

Tragicaly, Mengotti put himself out of the game by trying to do too much.

He injured his groin attempting to help his injury-ridden team by playing in the match against lowly Redlands, a game his side probably would have won without him.

Mengotti had been playing with a groin strain for several weeks, in a bid to help fill gaps caused by a horrific run of injuries in the Lions team.

But when he attempted to hit a 40-yard pass in the Redlands match he finally pushed the lingering injury too far.

"It just popped and I knew it had gone," Mengotti said. "I had been nursing the injury through matches to help the team out. But this time I forgot about it and tried to hit the long pass I knew was on."

Mengotti was a late addition to the Queensland residents team which was to play NSW on April 25 but never made the park after the game was washed out.

He had set his sights on gaining an inaugural origin Jersey, but rates himself only a slim chance of being back in time for push for selection.

"It's a game I really would like to have been part of. It's going to be a tough match with some good footballers on display," he said.

Mengotti's latest injury follows knee and wrist problems earlier this year. "It's already been a season I would like to forget," he said.

The loss of the versatile defender is yet another blow for Lions. In addition to missing the Origin game, the injury ruled Mengotti out of last weekend's Ampol Cup semi-final against Easts and will keep him out of this weekend's premiership decider against North Star.

But there could be some light at the end of the tunnel for the former NSLers.

Rob Farrow is back after breaking his wrist six weeks ago and captain Arno Bertogna and striker Frank Cole, who also have been carrying injuries, have returned to the team.

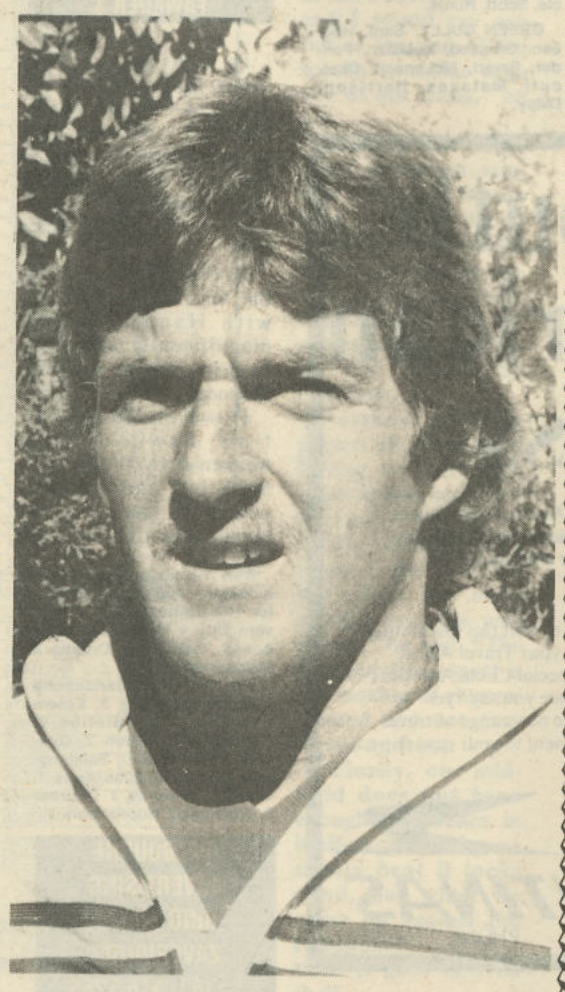
Fullback Andrew Stowell, Lions' most consistent player in the first round, has resumed training after a knee operation.

Stowell was thought to have only cartilage damage, but the operation revealed he had come within a thin strand of ligament of severing his cruciate.

But Lions midfielder Martin Kirsopp has not been so lucky.

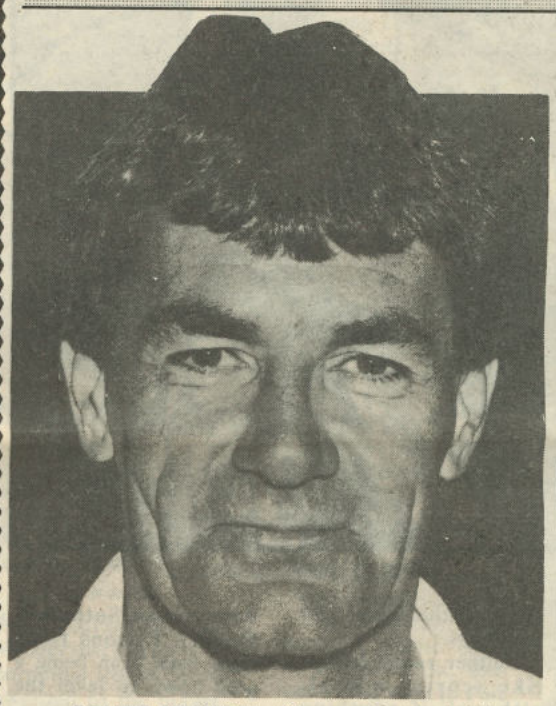
After tearing his anterior cruciate ligament last year, the 24-year-old Kirsopp has now done the same to his posterior cruciate and may be forced to retire.

Added to Lions injury woes, midielder Russell Stewart received a hefty three-week suspension after a recent send-off, which keeps him off the park until after this Sunday's clash with North Star.



RUSSELL STEWART

Crunch day for Lions, Ipswich



BRUCE STOWELL (Queensland coach)

THE premiership aspirations of two of Queensland's most successful clubs could be decided this weekend.

Brisbane Lions and Ipswich United will go into their matches in a must situation if they are to keep their title hopes alive.

Lions meet runaway leaders North Star in a showdown for the XXXX League championship on Sunday, while Ipswich United must beat fellow pacesetters Acacia Ridge at Proud Field on Saturday to keep alive hopes of winning Division Two and gaining promotion back to the top division.

Lions and North Star have turned the XXXX League into a two-horse race, but in recent weeks, after a string of surprise results for Lions, North Star have skipped seven points clear.

A win over Lions will clinch the title for North Star, which also carries the right to represent Queensland in the National League promotion play-offs.

Lions believe if they can collect the three points against their rivals, and win their game in hand against Rochedale, North Star's points advantage would be reduced to just one point and the leaders could falter in the final fixtures as the pressure mounts.

Neither team has an easy run into the premiership, with Lions still to meet Brisbane City and North Star's final fixtures including testing ties against Mount Gravatt and Easts.

Ipswich United have put themselves behind the eight ball in their promotion bid by losing 2-1 to Toowoomba side Willowburn a week ago.

The result enabled the Ridge and competition leaders Croatia to open a gap in the premiership race.

But all three leading teams have some tough games before the end of the season.

While a loss to the Ridge this Saturday will make it hard for Ipswich United to get back up, it seems certain their fellow pacesetters will drop points before the year is out.

And with Croatia to host Acacia Ridge in the final game of the year, the premiership could go right to the wire.

Level 2,3 courses

APPLICATIONS can now be made to attend two coaching courses to be held during the off-season.

The popular Level Two course will again be staged at Perry Park in October.

The course is open to women who have passed the Level One and have a basic understanding of the code and an ability to demonstrate it.

It will be held over two weeks and three mid-week night sessions from Saturday, October 7. The cost is $75, which includes the comprehensive BHP manual.

A live-in Level Three course (Part A) will be held at the Mount Gravatt CAE from January 14 to 19, at an all inclusive cost of $180. The course is open to those who have successfully completed their Level Two.

For further information on both courses and application forms, contact the QSF on 252 5327 or Reg Dyer on 372 3239.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL NOW AT LEADING NEWSAGENTS

VSF

FIRST DIVISION with Angelo Sticca

Juventus thrash Thomastown in Italian derby

IN the first match of a successful double-header at the Bulleen Veneto Club last Saturday, Juventus easily disposed of a valiant Thomastown.

Juventus took the initiative early in the first half and went into the half-time break one goal up thanks to a Frank McGrellis tap-in from a well worked move.

Goals to Steve Glockner and Sean Lane completed the scoring for Juventus, although the score could have been greater if not for the many good saves from Thomastown keeper Janakievski.

Juventus has now gone four games without conceding a goal but faces difficult five away matches in a row, which should prove to be a great test as to whether or not it can overcome its closest opposition in Croydon City and Morwell Falcons.

Saturday's double-header provided an unusual situation where the reserve game fixtures were played on an adjacent pitch at the same time as the senior games.

What was even more unusual was the majority of the large crowd watching the Juve/Thomastown reserve clash whilst the Bulleen/Box Hill senior game was being played. Then again, with a Juventus reserve team with the likes of Laumets, Egan and Patterson strutting their stuff, it is understandable.

In the wake of Saturday's defeat Thomastown has sacked coach Frank McAleer, who is to be replaced by former Marconi star Roberto Vieri.

JUVENTUS: Marrama, Marley, Coady, Belic, Della Rocca, Herd (Klepac 73rd), Lane, McGrellis (Giaccherini), Glockner, De Amicis, Minichiello.

THOMASTOWN: Janakievski, Mihos (Sinclair 74), Mihailidis, Hennessey, Athersych, De Propertis, Cristaldo (Di Martino 74th), Carfora, Ragusa, Griffin, Dougherty.

BULLEEN 0 BOX HILL 0

The second match of the double-header produced a rather dull affair as the teams split the points.

Neither really looked like scoring a goal, although if anything Box Hill had the better of the chances.

Bulleen lost sweeper Rob Krajacic early in the game with what looked like a knee injury, and this must have weakened Bulleen's drive down the middle of the park.

Box Hill moved out of the relegation zone with the point, whilst Bulleen is placed in the middle of the table and safe from any relegation danger.

BULLEEN: Roccioletti, Curulli, Krajacic (Milosevic 26th), Avian, Trogiric, Ruccia, Manou, Angele, Marsan, Lujic, O'Keefe.

BOX HILL: McKinlay, Cooper, Dimitrelis, Davidson, McCleod, McAleer, Egan, Thomas, McPhee, Alexander, Davis.

MICK COADY (Juventus)

NORTHCOTE CITY 2 MORWELL FALCONS 2

In a very entertaining encounter at John Cain Reserve on Saturday, Morwell Falcons twice came back from being a goal down to level the scoreline.

Ex-Ringwood City striker Peter Cocker, now playing for Northcote City, scored both Northcote goals as his side started slowly before taking the lead on the half-hour mark.

Morwell was playing well and took only 15 minutes before equalising with a goal from Darko Basara.

Cocker put Northcote back into the lead three minutes later, but a Jeff Doyle penalty 10 minutes before time allowed Morwell to take a fully deserved point against a Northcote side which is very difficult to beat at home.

Northcote has been boosted recently by the return of injured Martin Woodall and the signing of Burgess from Heidelberg.

Tonight (Wednesday), Northcote plays a postponed game against Bulleen at John Cain Reserve, with an 8pm kick-off.

NORTHCOTE CITY: Turudia, Bekiaris, Palmaricciotti, Harris, N. Constantinou, Burgess, Gymnopoulos, Ramos, Cocker, J. Constantinou, Woodall.

MORWELL FALCONS: Reynolds, Bingham, Bruns (Warzawski), Doyle, Walsh, Cassar, McBride, Byrne, O'Donnell, Basara, Manley.

CROYDON CITY 1 GREEN GULLY 0

Croydon City remained at the top of the league with a superior goal-difference after disposing of a determined Green Gully thanks to an Andy Humble goal.

In a rther physical game which produced a number of cautions, Green Gully had the better of the early exchanges but eventually fell away as Croydon took control over the game.

Humble scored his 13th goal of the season from a set piece, and player/coach Ian Dobson must be happy to have such a consistent scorer in Humble.

CROYDON CITY: Nobile, Langsbury, McIntosh, Dobson, Roodhouse, Brimmer, van Egmond, Brown, Humble, Scott, Runje.

GREEN GULLY: Sant, Hogben, Grimaud, McMillan, Pender, Smart, McLennan, Chetcuti, Metaxas, Harrison, Daley.

ST ALBANS 1 RINGWOOD CITY 0

St Albans got back into winning form with a win over the struggling Ringwood City.

This loss throws Ringwood further into the relegation mire, and its form of late has seen it concede a lot of goals and remain scoreless for five games, or 450 minutes to play.

The headaches must be getting larger at Ringwood, with nothing in the pipeline to suggest that things are going to improve.

The win for St Albans was a vital one for Branko Culina's side, especially after its poor loss to Morwell the week before.

Kuperesak scored the all-important goal for the winners.

ST ALBANS: Markic, Simovic, Colina, Bozic, Dragovic, Culina, Gagula, Kuperesak, Kuzman, Morovic, Eres (Juricic 70th).

RINGWOOD CITY: Blackley, Haupt, Nolan, Cumming, Groenwald, Verniers, Muir, Maguire, Corvan, Thomason, Prinsen.

CAULFIELD CITY 4 POLONIA 1

Caulfield City continued the routine percentage boosters against Polonia when it easily won thanks to another hat-trick from runaway league top scorer Con Pappas.

Polonia's sole goalscorer was defender Innes, whilst Deligiannis scored the other goal for Caulfield City.

This win keeps Caulfield in touch with the top four teams, but it must become more consistent if wishes to make it.

CAULFIELD CITY: Koletso, Bitsonis, Dimovski, Fattore, Kountouris, Theoharous, Deligiannis, Aretis, Drakeford, Zemunik, Pappas.

POLONIA:; D'Antonio, Parrugia, Innes, Fleming,Pichner, Stefanovic, Nelson, Belegrinos, Blichartz, Bonk, Acevski.

FRANKSTON PINES 3 FAWKNER 3

In a high-scoring affair at Frankston on Sunday, Fawkner's Hanna scored a tremendous hat-trick and came close to scoring another late in the game as the points were split.

Fawkner shot away in the first half to lead 3-0 with Hanna playing magnificently after returning from a long absence.

However, after half-time Fawkner was weakened by the loss of Sabatino and Ferrer, who both came off injured, and this allowed the Pines to gain the initiative in the midfield.

Frankston's goals came from Watson (2) and Ian Stirton, who has been scoring consistently in recent weeks.

Injuries and suspensions have hounded Fawkner this season, preventing coach John Colangeli from fielding the same line-up more than twice all year, but now with Hanna back and the suspended Willie Raynes scoring consistently since joining one month ago, it will be a determined Fawkner which will try finishing off the season on a high note.

FAWKNER: Terzini, Tubic, Schipano, Ferrer (Ciavelli), Cosentino, Falcone, Emmanuele, Hanna, Campbell, Sabatino (Soumelidis) Ferla.

FRANKSTON PINES: Waterman, Ferris, Buchanan, Weir, Lipscombe, Watson, Kennan, Ross, Stirton, Dick, Miller.

ALTONA GATE 2 SPRINGVALE CITY 1

Altona Gate kept in touch with the top four with a good win over Springvale City.

Altona took an early lead when Tortevski scored from a freek-kick in the 16th minute. Gary McMullen scored his 13th goal of the season late in the second half to cap off a great display.

Springvale fought grimly to get back into the match, and Stan Webster scored seven minutes before time.

This was Springvale's first loss in the past seven matches, whilst for Altona it was useful preparation for Saturday's big clash of the western suburbs when it takes on St Albans.

ALTONA GATE: Lee, Micevski, Momirovski, Markovski, Gagic, Tortevski, Kebakoski (Aslimoski 71st), Nicoski, Todorovski (Ristovski), McMullen, Illioski.

SPRINGVALE CITY: Brian, Kral, Byrne, Bryden, Reilly, Findlay (Mitsou), Keenan (Tuffield), Fourna, Webster, Armstrong, Livingstone.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALL NSL TEAMS AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL AT LEADING NEWSAGENTS NOW

Victorian State League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croydon City	19	12	5	2	30	6	29
Juventus	19	12	5	2	35	13	29
Morwell Falcons	20	10	7	3	35	15	27
St Albans	20	10	6	4	24	15	26
Altona Gate	20	10	5	5	36	22	25
Caulfield City	20	9	5	6	32	26	23
Northcote City	18	8	5	5	25	19	21
Green Gully	19	8	3	8	25	21	19
Bulleen	19	6	6	7	17	21	18
Thomastown	20	5	8	7	18	27	18
Frankston Pines	20	5	6	9	23	33	16
Fawkner	*19*	*5*	*5*	*9*	*15*	*27*	*15*
Springvale City	20	3	7	10	14	21	13
Box Hill	19	3	7	9	14	24	13
Ringwood City	20	3	7	10	13	34	13
Polonia	20	2	3	15	11	43	7

THIS WEEK'S GAMES:
Saturday Altona Gate v St Albans, Morwell Falcons v Caulfield City.
Sunday Box Hill v Frankston Pines, Green Gully v Juventus, Polonia v Croydon City, Ringwood City v Northcote City, Thomastown v Bulleen, Fawkner v Springvale City.

NSL Y.L. SOUTH: Clayton 0 Preston Makedonia 2, Clifton Hill 0 Altona Gate 4, Malvern City v Heidelberg postponed, Melbourne Croatia 2 Melbourne JUST 0.

VIC DIV ONE: Dandenong 2 Nunawading City 3, Essendon City 2 Mordialloc 0, Knox City 3 Albion 2, Oakleigh 1 Werribee 0, Sandringham City 2 Broadmeadows 1, Western Suburbs 1 Doveton 0, Westgate 2 Mooroolbark 1.

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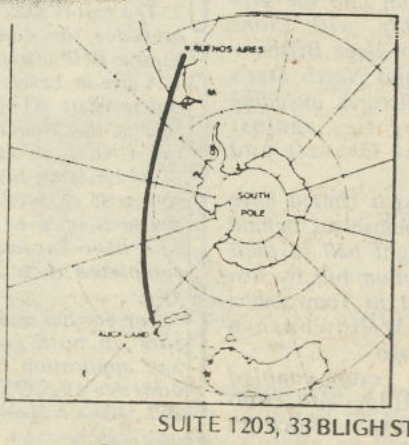

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ALAN CLARK REVIEWS
The Soccer Scene in . . .

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SOCCER legend George Best will play a charity game for amputee Neil Fuller on Sunday at Elizabeth in SA.

The former Manchester United and Northern Ireland genius has agreed to turn out for Fuller, the ex-State Youth player who lost part of his leg in 1987 after an accident whilst playing for Para Hills.

Best tour organisers, Fuller and officials at Elizabeth have linked up to work out details of the charity game which will help Fuller compete for Australia in September in the Fespic Games.

Former Celtic Lisbon Lions striker Willie Wallace has agreed to fly from Sydney to play.

Also likely to line-up with Best are Tommy Preston, Fuller, Martin Doak, Billy Millen, Alby Kidd, Charlie Lamont, Tom Lamont, Alby Briscoe, John Irwin, Victorian Director of Coaching Tim White, Sammy Wright and Steve Calikes.

Former Northern Ireland and West Adelaide goalkeeper Sam Serice will lead the opposition which should comprise — Service, son Steve, Graham Honeyman, Norman Lees, Billy Birch, Dave Pillans, Peter Worthington, Neil McGachey, Andy Toland, Ian Cole, Richard Preston, Bobby Tuffs, Martyn Crook and Sammy Magill.

Irishman John Anderson will be referee for the match which will kick-off at 3pm at Ramsay Park.

★★★

MODBURY midfielder Bryan Kent missed Saturday's PGH Federation Cup tie against Enfield.

He came on as substitute at half-time the week before against Lion and was sent off about 20 minutes later.

In this dramatic shot through the net at Olympic Sports Field, Jeff Olver (left) has just brought down Adelaide City's Joe Mullen to concede a penalty. Heidelberg's Alan Scott (4) sprints across, but the damage has been done. Adcity 2 Bergers 1 on July 2. Photo: JANUSZ KAMMA.

Croatia's Cup shock

CROATIA produced the shock of the season downing Hellas 2-3 in the quarter-finals of the PGH Federation Cup last Saturday.

But they will come slap bang to reality this week when they travel to face relegation-haunted Para Hills at the Paddocks.

Para also scrapped into the Cup semis last week with an own goal victory over Elizabeth.

But their First Division survival is at stake on Saturday and they will make it very hot for even classy Croatia.

Polonia came a Cup cropper against Birkalla and can expect little respite despite this Saturday against Hellas.

Birkalla are on cloud nine after their Cup win, highlighted by a very special goal from former Australian Player of the Year Graham Honeyman, but they could come crashing back to earth if they take lightly Saturday's League tie against Adelaide City.

Salisbury should have too much quality and class for Campbelltown. The Red Devils, though, are desperate for points and will be out to get them against their former coach Eric Normal.

Modbury went into the Cup semis with an extra-time win over Second Divisionn Enfield. They face up to another survival worrier, Port Adelaide, and are unlikely to be generous hosts, at least where the points are concerned.

Lion is the form team of the past five weeks and they could add Azzurri's scalp to their list, especially at home where Lion is hard to eclipse.

Development squad in place

SOME of SA's best young talent have been named in a State under-16 development squad.

Staff coaches Carlos Buzzetti and Sam Miskelly will monitor and nurture the young stars in a scheme, co-ordinated by John Brannigan. The squad is:

Jarrod Thrun (Campbelltown), Peter Nicou (Omonia), Michael Gafney (Adelaide City) Damien Sullivan (Birkalla), Carlos Buzzetti (Hellas), Mark Camilleri (Ad City), Steve Moon (Para Hills), Scott Ryschka (Camp), Douglas Paterson (Birk), Vince Tripodi (Ad City), Ross Aloisi (Ad City), Stuart McKenzie (Salisbury), Damien Counter (Hell), Joe Barilla (Lion), Michael Stephenson (Para), John Duthie (Salis), James Stockdale (Para), Chris Flahert (Birk), Daniel McCombe (Apac), Michael Hadaj (Lion), Joe Visentin (Birk), Tony Dominico (Ad City), Andrew O'Malley (Modubury), Alex Tsipantis (Port), Chris Katsulas (Hell).

Young Thrun did not have time to be worried about his First Division Foundation State League debut against Birkalla Eagles.

The young Campbelltown custodian, an apprentice baker, was too busy to think about it.

He worked from 3am to 4pm on Friday and then returned at 11pm until 9am on Saturday. A quick sleep, then State Youth keeper Thrun was ready for the game. But he was back at work again at midnight!

★★★

PORT Adelaide may have found a new midfield 'general' in import Goran Doregevic.

The nuggetty 'little chunk of granite' plays with real vision, and looks a big asset to Port which is battling to avoid the drop to Division Two.

Port has two more imports Zlatko Zvekic and Miodrag Cvetanovic.

★★★

BLACKWOOD has soured Beograd's unbeaten record this season.

Striker Tom Forde did the damage with a header in the first half of the Hills side's 1-0 win.

Beograd, led by former Socceroo John Nyskohus, is guaranteed promotion.

Blackwood's clash with Seaford on August 19 could decide which of those two also makes the trip upstairs.

But Cumberland could deny the hopes of both.

★★★

FORMER Socceroo Jimbo Muir will coach SA under-14s in the Australian Talent Identification Championships in Bundaberg in September.

He, manager Mike Moralee and trainer Colin Ward have watched 500 eligible youngsters in 60 games in the past three months as they pondered their squad.

The boys now representing SA will be — Artone (Ad City), Athanasiadis (Hellas), Atsikbasis (Ad City), Carreno, Coutouvidis (Salisbury), Doufos, Galantomos, Karamalis (Hell), Kolilas (Asteras), Konstad (Hell), Medic (Ad City), McGair (Omonia), Pires (Ad City), Scaizi (Campbelltown), Sibonis (Asteras), Tsekinis (Hell).

★★★

SA will host the national primary schoolboys championships from July 31 to August 4.

The SA squad is — Campbell (St Frances Xavier), Campion (Ethelton), Carey, Dickson (The Heights), Dang (St Frances Xavier), Duffill (Belair), Ellicott (The Heights), Ingham (St David's), Lainio (Whyalla), McDonald (Netley), Mezensof (Seaford), Pirone (St Paul's), Verschoor (Port Noarlunga).

★★★

SALISBURY goalkeeper Chris Terpcou will return from the UK disillusioned.

He was wanted by Crewe Alexandra but could not gain the necessary work permit.

★★★

SERGIO Melta is the favourite to win Adelaide City's Player of the Year award.

The NSL boys will hold their presentation night on Friday.

★★★

BIRKALLA Eagles clubrooms were alive with reminiscences on Sunday when one of Australia's longest serving clubmen celebrated his 80th birthday.

Club life member Ern Wraight has been with Birkalla for a staggering 54 years as player, coach, committeeman and worker.

He now marks out the club's Camden pitch each week and is gatekeeper for home games.

DISTRIBUTION

THE demand for AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY is increasing, and numerous cases are coming to note where newsagents order insufficient supplies.

ASW would greatly appreciate readers asking their newsagents to order extra supplies, where they find there is no stock left.

ACT

Belconnen's strength

Belconnen United's 'indifferent season' still leaves it with an excellent chance of winning the most open ACT first division title race in years, coach Steve Forshaw said.

"You couldn't say it's been a good year by our own standards but we're in the semi-finals of the Federation Cup and I would say our run to the end of the season is easier than any of our rivals," he said.

United, who made some glamorous summer signings in former NSL players Steve Bryant and Mike Milovanovic, began the season as an overwhelming favourite for the championship but has so far failed to dominate.

Forshaw believes players like Bryant are having an increasing effect as they settle into the club.

"The most pleasing thing is the way the back four has been playing over the past month," he said. "The disappointing aspect is the number of chances created and not converted up front.

"Finally, our midfield does not have enough confidence in itself. Against sides we should beat it looks good, but when we come up against the traditionally stronger sides it goes into its shell.

"I stress it's not the personnel that's wrong. It's an attitude problem which has to be addressed in the coming weeks."

★★★

ACT REFEREE Bill Vandervlist has given a perpetual trophy to be awarded to the player of the tournament at the National Youth Championships.

The first winner, David Seal (NSW), received it from AIS head coach Ron Smith at the end of the recent 1989 competition.

Tournament organisers had asked Vandervlist to do the honours but typically, he did not want to let down the two ACT League teams he was scheduled to referee that afternoon.

★★★

CANBERRA CROATIA ready to go full time?

Not that the club is necessarily ready for such an ambitious venture, but the number of Croatia players on the sidelines during midweek matches at the recent national youth championships might indicate they have nothing else to do.

To be fair, all had arranged holidays or days off from regular work to watch the feast of soccer on display and to support teammates in the ACT side.

— GRAHAM COOKE

THE POOLS — THE GAME AS BIG AS AUSTRALIA
MATCH LIST

WEEK 207
SUN. 16th JULY, 1989

NSW STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 1	INTER MONARO	CANB. CROATIA	1	1-3
	WARRINGAH	CANTERBURY	2	0-0
	MELITA	POLONIA	3	3-1
	NEWCASTLE	ROCKDALE	4	2-1
	PENRITH	AVALA	5	0-2
	WOLLONGONG	SUTHERLAND	6	3-1
NSW STATE LGE. DIV. 2	C'BELLTOWN V.	WAVERLEY	7	1-1
	DULWICH HILL	MACEDONIA	8	1-3
	FAIRY MEADOW	YUGAL	9	2-0
	GRANVILLE	NORTH SHORE	10	0-0
	BANKSTOWN	ORANGE W.	11	4-1
VIC. ST. LGE.	CROYDON	GREEN GULLY	12	1-0
	SPRINGVALE	ALTONA GATE	13	1-2
	FRANKSTON	FAWKNER	14	3-3
‡	WESTERN SUBS	DOVETON	15	1-0
TAS. ST. LGE.	LAUNCESTON	WHITE EAGLE	16	2-4
	CALEDONIANS	DEVONPORT	17	3-1
	OLYMPIA	BURNIE	18	2-1
N. TAS. DIV. 1	ULVERSTONE	DEVONPORT	19	0-1
	BURNIE	LAUNCESTON	20	3-3
OLD. DIV. 1	REDCLIFFE	SLACKS CREEK	21	1-3
	ST. ALBANS	ANNERLEY	22	1-2
	LUTWYCHE	SOUTHS UTD.	23	0-1
OLD. DIV. 4	SOUTH STAR	OXLEY	24	1-1
	BROTHERS	SAMFORD	25	0-2
	LOGAN	LEICHHARDT	26	1-2
N. NSW DIV. 1	WALLSEND	CARDIFF	27	0-2
	WESTON	STOCKTON	28	4-2
	W. WALLSEND	CESSNOCK	29	1-0
NTH. NSW DIV. 2	LAMBTON	NEWCASTLE M.	30	0-0
	BELMONT	TORONTO-A.	31	2-1
	EDGEWORTH	MAITLAND	32	2-1
	BERESFIELD	MAYFIELD	33	0-2
VIC. AMATEUR LGE. DIV. 1	LATROBE	OAKLEIGH	34	1-4
	E. RICHMOND	KEILOR	35	2-2
	NORTH. UTD.	COLLINGWOOD	36	0-2
	WAVERLEY	HAWTHORN	37	2-3
	DIGGERS REST	PHILLIP INST.	38	2-0
***RESERVE MATCHES**				
VIC. AMATEUR LGE. DIV. 2	YARRA	CONCORD	39	
	OLD SCOTCH	MACCABI	40	
	MELB. UNI.	FURLAN	41	
	ENDEAVOUR	RMIT	42	
	UPFIELD	CAMBERWELL	43	
	INTERCITY	DIAMOND V.	44	
†	MAITLAND UTD.	COOKS HILL	45	
	NEWCASTLE P.	NELSON BAY	46	
N. NSW DIV. 4	KAHIBAH	MUSWELBROOK	47	
	STH. WALLSEND	THORNTON	48	
	UNIVERSITY	KOTARA STH.	49	
‡	PT. HACKING	CANTERBURY	50	

* VICTORIA DIVISION 1
† NORTHERN NSW DIVISION 3
‡ NSW STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 3

WEEK 208
SUN. 23rd JULY, 1989

NSW STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 1	AVALA	INTER MONARO	1	
	CANB. CROATIA	WARRINGAH	2	
	CANTERBURY	MELITA	3	
	POLONIA	ROCKDALE	4	
	SUTHERLAND	PENRITH	5	
	WOLLONGONG	NEWCASTLE	6	
NSW STATE LGE. DIVISION 2	GLADESVILLE	C'BELTOWN V.	7	
	MACEDONIA	YUGAL	8	
	MT. DRUITT	GRANVILLE	9	
	MANLY	FAIRY MEADOW	10	
	NORTH SHORE	BANKSTOWN	11	
VIC. STATE LEAGUE	BOX HILL	FRANKSTON	12	
	GREEN GULLY	JUVENTUS	13	
	MARIBYRNONG	CROYDON	14	
	RINGWOOD	NORTHCOTE	15	
	THOMASTOWN	BULLEEN	16	
	FAWKNER	SPRINGVALE	17	
VIC. DIV. 1	WERRIBEE	SANDRINGHAM	18	
	BROADM'DOWS	ESSENDON	19	
	ALBION	WESTGATE	20	
	MORDIALLOC	DANDENONG	21	
OLD. DIV. 1	MT. GRAVATT	REDLANDS	22	
	BRIS. LIONS	NORTH STAR	23	
	OLYMPIC UTD.	THISTLE	24	
	COALSTARS	TARINGA	25	
OLD. DIV. 2	BRIS. CROATIA	NERANG	26	
	NEWMARKET	KINGSRIDGE	27	
	WILLOWBURN	MITCHELTON	28	
	INALA	LATROBE	29	
TAS. STATE L.	BURNIE	LAUNCESTON	30	
	WHITE EAGLE	ULVERSTONE	31	
	HOBART J.	CALEDONIANS	32	
TAS. N. DIV. 1	JUVENTUS	GEORGE TOWN	33	
	OLYMPIC	ULVERSTONE	34	
N. NSW DIV. 1	CESSNOCK	WESTON	35	
	STOCKTON	WALLSEND	36	
	CARDIFF	HIGHFIELDS	37	
*	NEWCASTLE C.	BELMONT	38	
***RESERVE MATCHES**				
*	WESTLAKES	LAMBTON	39	
	BUDGEWOI	EDGEWORTH	40	
†	DUDLEY	RAYMOND TCE.	41	
	NELSON BAY	MAITLAND UTD.	42	
‡	REDCLIFFE	ANNERLEY	43	
OLD. DIV. 4	WESTERN SUBS	BROTHERS	44	
	LEICHHARDT	SOUTHSIDE	45	
NSW STATE LGE. DIV. 3	MOOREBANK	BLACKTOWN	46	
	HILLS UTD.	SOUTH. DIST.	47	
	CENTRAL COAST	PORT HACKING	48	
	CANTERBURY	CONCORDIA	49	
	MT. PRITCHARD	ROSEBERY	50	

* NORTHERN NSW DIVISION 2
† NORTHERN NSW DIVISION 3
‡ QUEENSLAND DIVISION 3

The Winning Numbers Were: 7, 10, 14, 20, 24, 30 supp 2.

NOTE: Teams on the left are playing on their home ground while teams on the right are playing away from home.

NORTHERN NSW

News and Views

FROM DAVE WILLIAMS

Topsy-turvy week for the Rosebuds

ADAMSTOWN Rosebud on the weekend of July 8-9 sank to its lowest point this season before reaching on Wednesday night the highest level of its centenary year.

Last Saturday week, Mark Foster and Stuart Chandler scored the Wallsend goals that countered those by Adamstown's Ross Wells and Warren Davies, as the top and bottom teams in the Northern NSW First Division premiership fought out a 2-2 draw.

The following day, two goals by David Simpson gave Lake Macquarie a 2-0 win over the premiers.

But last Wednesday, July 12 — the actual *foundationn date of* the Adamstown Rosebud club 100 years ago — the Rosebud spirit prevailed for the home team to send Frank Arok's mixed selection of Socceroos, former internationals and National League players crashing to a 2-1 defeat before some 3000 spectators.

The victory was an unexpected boost for the club, whose century of continuous football has been studded with successes at all levels.

Rosebuds, led by skipper John McQuarrie and bolstered by former international Marshall Soper in attack and the tireless Nick Plataniotis, from Canterbury, in the central defence, refused to yield in the late stages of a highly entertaining, and, at times, very skilful match.

And there was no better player on the field than the regular Rosebud goalkeeper Steve Dorman.

Dorman won the admiration of all with his daring and almost flawless display.

His only blemish was in bringing down Paul Trimboli to concede a penalty kick from which Graham Jennings scored in the 40th minute.

Jennings' goal brought the teams level after Soper had given Rosebud the lead from a loose ball at close range four minutes after the kick-off.

John McQuarrie

For most of the second half, Dorman stood up to persistent attacks by the Australian team until the pressure eased a little in the 69th minute when substitute midfielder Steve Bajzath put a stinging penalty past Gary Meier, who had replaced Jeff Olver at half-time.

Both team coaches, Frank Arok and Neville Power, made several changes, one of them necessary early in the game.

JENNINGS

As a result of a melee from which Soper scored soon after the start, Sean Ingham was carried off with an injured knee.

Power replaced him with Ross Wells.

Charlie Yankos played only in the first half, Mark Jones taking over from the resumption.

In the early fixture, the Australian under 16 World Cup team also tasted defeat at the hands of the Northern NSW youth side.

Tony Pangallo became a casualty 12 minutes after the start but this did not prevent the Joeys taking the lead in the 25th minute.

Jeffrey Suzor's shot from near the penalty spot would have missed the left upright, but a defender deflected the ball wide of Dean Conway in the Northern NSW goal.

Adamstown Rosebud's left-side midfielder Brett Adams, now at the AIS, made it 1-1 before the interval when he neatly slotted the ball wide of the advancing Mark Schwarzer.

Brett Eldridge missed two chances to add to the Northern NSW score in the second half before Adams struck again from a fine cross sent over from the right by Craig Jones.

The Australian team gave a sparkling exhibition in lead-up play, but came up against a team whose confidence increased as a result of its experience in the recent National Talent Identification Championships in Canberra.

FIRST DIVISION
FIRST GRADE
as at 10.7.89

Adamstown	9	7	1	1	24	9	22
Weston Workers	8	7	0	1	22	8	21
West Wallsend	7	6	1	0	19	6	19
Belmont-Swansea	11	4	1	6	17	16	13
Highfields Azz	8	3	2	3	13	17	11
Stockton	11	2	3	6	11	19	9
Lake Macquarie	7	2	1	4	7	11	7
Cessnock City	9	2	1	6	12	19	7
Cardiff	6	2	0	4	6	11	6
Wallsend	8	1	2	5	5	20	5

RESERVE GRADE

Belmont-Swansea	11	7	1	3	18	8	22
Adamstown	9	6	1	2	20	12	19
West Wallsend	7	6	0	1	23	5	18
Lake Macquarie	7	3	3	1	10	7	12
Weston Workers	8	3	3	2	7	6	12
Stockton	11	3	2	6	19	25	11
Wallsend	7	3	1	3	11	15	10
Cessnock City	9	2	2	5	15	25	8
Highfields Azz	7	1	0	6	9	22	3
Cardiff	6	0	1	5	5	12	1

UNDER 18

Belmont-Swansea	11	8	3	0	18	4	27
Weston Workers	9	4	5	0	13	4	17
West Wallsend	7	5	0	2	15	5	15
Highfields Azz	7	4	2	1	15	4	14
Adamstown	8	4	1	3	16	9	13
Lake Macquarie	7	3	3	1	7	4	12
Stockton	11	2	1	8	11	28	7
Cardiff	6	1	2	3	2	5	5
Cessnock City	10	0	3	7	10	22	3
Wallsend	6	0	2	4	4	20	2

SECOND DIVISION
FIRST GRADE

Newcastle Croat	12	7	1	4	22	18	22
Toronto-Awaba	10	6	3	1	37	12	21
Mayfield United	12	5	6	1	19	14	21
Edgeworth	10	5	3	2	17	8	18
Newcastle Mac	9	4	5	0	24	16	17
Maitland Magpies	12	4	4	4	18	19	16
Westlakes Utd	11	2	4	5	13	28	10
Belmont	9	2	3	4	14	17	9
Beresfield Utd	11	1	5	5	15	27	8
Lambton Jaffas	7	2	1	4	4	7	7
Budgewoi	11	0	3	8	18	35	3

RESERVE GRADE

Toronto-Awaba	10	7	2	1	24	8	23
Westlakes Utd	11	7	2	2	17	6	23
Newcastle Mac	9	6	2	1	16	8	20
Maitland Magpies	12	6	1	5	16	15	19
Mayfield United	12	4	3	5	9	12	15
Budgewoi	11	4	2	5	13	15	14
Edgeworth	10	3	4	3	5	4	13
Belmont	9	3	2	4	15	9	11
Beresfield Utd	11	3	1	7	10	22	10
Lambton Jaffas	7	2	1	4	10	9	7
Newcastle Croat	12	1	2	9	8	32	5

UNDER 18

Maitland	12	11	1	0	41	4	34
Toronto-Awaba	10	7	1	2	15	5	22
Budgewoi	11	7	0	4	25	9	21
Mayfield	12	6	2	4	19	22	20
Belmont	8	5	2	1	17	4	17
Newcastle Mac	9	5	0	4	25	6	15
Edgeworth	9	4	1	4	10	11	13
Westlakes Utd	11	2	3	6	4	13	9
Newcastle Croa	12	2	2	8	14	36	8
Lambton Jaffas	7	1	0	6	4	27	3
Beresfield	11	0	0	11	2	39	0

THIRD DIVISION
FIRST GRADE

Raymond Terr	11	8	2	1	34	13	26
Cooks Hill	11	8	1	2	30	17	25
Dudley-Redhead	9	7	0	2	21	9	21
Merewether	12	5	3	4	20	18	18
Kurri Kurri	9	4	2	3	11	12	14
South Cardiff	11	4	2	5	17	19	14
Newcastle Pol	10	2	4	4	16	20	10
Morrisset	9	2	1	6	9	19	7
Nelson Bay	10	1	2	7	12	24	5
Maitland	10	0	3	7	6	25	3

RESERVE GRADE

Raymond Terr	11	8	2	1	39	8	26
Cooks Hill	11	7	2	2	31	14	23
Dudley-Redhead	9	7	0	2	20	8	21
South Cardiff	11	6	1	4	16	16	19
Merewether	12	5	0	7	19	19	15
Morisset	9	4	0	5	11	16	12
Newcastle Pol	10	2	3	5	10	19	9
Maitland	10	2	2	6	11	25	8
Kurri Kurri	9	1	3	5	6	15	6
Nelson Bay	10	1	3	6	7	30	6

FOURTH DIVISION
FIRST GRADE

Kahibah	12	9	2	1	28	10	29
Newcastle Oly	11	8	3	0	32	13	27
Uni Newcastle	11	6	1	4	14	14	19
Charlestown	12	6	1	5	21	23	19
Kotara South	9	5	2	2	15	7	17
Kearsley	10	3	3	4	14	17	12
Muswellbrook	9	3	1	5	12	16	10
Thornton Park	11	2	1	8	10	14	7
Cardiff Rail	9	2	1	6	13	23	7
South Wallsend	10	0	1	9	12	34	1

RESERVE GRADE

Kotara South	9	9	0	0	28	2	27
Kahibah	12	8	0	4	23	8	24
Newcastle Oly	11	6	2	3	27	13	20
Charlestown	12	5	2	5	18	15	17
Uni of Newcastle	11	3	4	4	9	8	13
Kearsley	10	3	4	3	8	15	13
South Wallsend	10	4	0	6	9	20	12
Thornton Park	11	3	2	6	8	17	11
Cardiff Rail	9	1	2	6	12	23	5
Muswellbrook	9	1	2	6	6	27	5

FIFTH DIVISION
FIRST GRADE

Newcastle Tech	15	12	3	0	39	8	39
Singleton	15	12	2	1	48	12	38
Jesmond Rams	14	7	4	3	30	18	25
Marks Point	13	7	4	2	27	15	25
Rutherford	14	7	0	7	23	28	21
New Lambton	13	5	3	5	24	23	18
Crown Utd	16	5	1	10	24	34	16
Medowie	15	3	4	8	26	39	13
Garden Suburb	12	3	3	6	14	16	12
Bellbird Wkrs	15	3	3	9	18	48	12
Barnsley	12	2	2	8	15	34	8
Charlestown	10	1	1	8	12	25	4

RESERVE GRADE

Singleton	15	11	2	2	31	8	35
Newcastle Tech	15	10	4	1	32	10	34
Mark Point	13	8	3	2	35	14	27
Jesmond Rams	14	7	4	3	18	10	25
Bellbird	15	6	4	5	20	26	22
Barnsley	12	5	2	5	28	17	17
Medowie	15	5	2	8	24	35	17
Crown Utd	16	4	2	10	17	40	14
New Lambton	13	3	3	7	11	18	12
Rutherford	13	4	0	9	16	26	12
Garden Suburb	12	3	1	8	14	30	10
Charlestown	9	1	1	7	10	22	4

SUBURBAN LEAGUE

Dudley-Redhead	12	10	0	2	48	19	30
Thornton Park	12	6	1	5	38	22	19
Marks Point	9	6	1	2	23	8	19
Merewether R.	8	6	0	2	31	10	18
Singleton	11	5	2	4	19	20	17
South Wallsend	9	4	1	4	22	20	13
Westlakes	7	2	3	2	14	17	9
N'castle Mladost	5	2	0	3	13	24	6
University	7	2	0	5	8	22	6
Newcastle Tech	10	2	0	8	13	44	6
Highfields Azzurri	7	1	1	5	7	19	4
Spanish	5	0	1	4	3	14	1

COCA COLA JSL
Under 13's

Adamstown	6	6	0	0	31	2	18
North Coast	7	5	1	1	24	3	16
Highfields	6	5	1	0	15	3	16
Austral	4	3	0	1	13	4	9
Weston	7	2	1	4	6	19	7
Cessnock City	5	1	0	4	5	14	3
Maitland	6	1	0	5	5	16	3
Lake Macquarie	7	1	0	6	6	36	3
Cardiff	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

Under 14's

Adamstown	6	5	1	0	23	2	16
North Coast	7	4	1	2	13	2	13
Austral	4	4	0	0	9	0	12
Weston	7	4	0	3	9	8	12
Highfields	6	3	0	3	16	8	9
Lake Macquarie	7	3	0	4	7	14	9
Maitland	6	1	1	4	4	18	4
Cessnock City	5	0	1	4	3	18	1
Cardiff	4	0	0	4	0	14	0

Under 15's

Highfields	6	6	0	0	20	2	18
Adamstown	5	5	0	0	43	2	15
Austral	4	4	0	0	28	1	12
North Coast	7	4	0	3	13	9	12
Weston	7	3	0	4	10	18	9
Cardiff	4	1	0	3	3	5	3
Lake Macquarie	7	1	0	6	5	33	3
Cessnock City	5	1	0	4	4	41	3
Maitland	5	0	0	5	0	15	0

Under 16's

Highfields	6	6	0	0	20	0	18
Weston	7	5	1	1	17	8	16
North Coast	8	5	1	2	18	11	16
Lake Macquarie	8	3	2	3	12	11	11
Austral	5	3	0	2	10	6	9
Cessnock City	5	1	2	2	6	11	5
Cardiff	6	1	0	5	3	15	3
Adamstown	5	0	2	3	3	9	2
Maitland	6	0	0	6	0	18	0

Jean-Paul de Marigny (right) gets away from Zoran Tacevski at Marconi Stadium last Sunday. Preston held the minor premiers to a scoreless draw — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

FUTSAL

Japanese in Queensland

A top Japanese provincial side will play matches in Queensland in August, including one against Logan Cavaliers.

Kotemba Futsal Club in Japan supplied seven players to the national Japanese team that competed in the third World Indoor Soccer (Futsal) Cup in Australia late last year.

They were so impressed with the hospitality they received while in Queensland that it prompted a return visit for games involving several clubs in the state.

The Cavaliers will use these games to help try and blend the new players with the old.

Along with the Kotemba visit is a visit by six Japanese junior talent squads a week before the Kotemba tour, in the age groups 10 to 15 years.

Matches will be played at the Skate Olympic Centre at Slacks Creek.

Already the Cavaliers have acquired the services of Indooroo Richard Barnard, John Kowtan (AIS, Brisbane Bombers) and Ringo Mejias (1989 Queensland State League top goal scorer with 37 goals in 14 games).

Canberra Croatia shares the benefits

FROM GRAHAM COOKE

CANBERRA Croatia has launched an initiative designed to improve links within the various club grades.

From the resumption of the ACT Junior League season after the school holidays, each member of the NSW First Division squad was attached to one of the club's junior sides, helping with the training, attending games where possible, and generally seeking to communicate both skills and enthusiasm to the players of the future.

Coach Tom Sermanni believes that not all the benefits will be to the juniors.

Marko Perinovic

"Placed in a teaching situation the players themselves will have to think about their game and just what they are passing on to the kids," he said.

Assistant Steve Darby said that if the team reached the NSL the project could be extended to the whole community.

ALAN REIS

"It will help in the development of Canberra Croatia's players as the true representatives of a city aiming to play in the national competition."

Croatia juniors boss Mirko Shrunjuc said the NSW players would be available to help coaches on request.

"We hope that in return the kids will take an interest in their player and come along to watch him on Sundays.

"The concept has great potential and something we hope will lay the foundations for the truly community club we want Canberra to become."

The allocation of Croatia players is as follows: Under 7, Peter Gunning; under 8, Anthony Giannasca; under 9, Tony Lemezina, Doug Marcina; under 10, Stan Dukic Joe Gagetti; under 11, George Kulscar, Lino Fiorese, Ray and Colin Junna; under 12, Jason Dunn, Andrew Young; under 13, Marko Perinovic, Gary Cole; under 14, Zoran Glavinic, Peter Mazis; under 15, Alan Reis.

GEORGE PETROV
(Preston Makedonia)

PERSONALITY PLAYER

NAME: George Petrov
BIRTHPLACE & DATE: 11.4.65 — Fitzroy, Melbourne
HEIGHT: 1.79cms
WEIGHT: 70kg
MARRIED: No.
HOME SUBURB: Viewbank, Melbourne
NICKNAME: Milo or 'P'
CAR: Suzuki Sierra
OCCUPATION: Telecom technition
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Kew Park Rangers and Polonia
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Maradona
FAVOURITE LOCAL PLAYER: Zoran Tacevski (Preston)
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Paul Wade (Sth Melbourne)
FAVOURITE GROUND: Conner Reserve
FAVOURITE MEMORABLE GAME: The 2-1 defeat in the 1985 NSL Cup final in 1985 or last year's 4-0 win against Brunswick Juventus which made certain we wouldn't get relegated.
BIGGEST THRILL: Being made Preston captain.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing any finals
FAVOURITE POSITION: Central midfield
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Fishing, tennis and golf
FAVOURITE FOOD: Any pasta — Italian food
FAVOURITE DRINK: Lemon mineral water
FAVOURITE MUSIC: INXS, Cure and Robbyn Ford
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Big Match
FAVOURITE MOVIE: No Way Out
BEST FRIEND: Con Opasinis
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Brother Chris and all coaches.
WORST INJURY: Torn medial ligaments (four months) and broken bone in foot (three months).
AMBITIONS: To play for Australia and to win the NSL championship
PRE-MATCH SUPERSTITIONS: Always put right boot on first
BOOT TYPE: Puma
MOST PROMISING TEAM MATE: George Jolevski
PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: Elle McPherson

— Compiled by GREG BLAKE

Deferred games
Saints' blitz stuns Preston

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ST GEORGE scored three goals in the first 16 minutes to swamp Preston Makedonia 3-0 in a deferred Round 12 fixture at St George Stadium to lift themselves into second spot on the NSL ladder with one round to go.

Ironically, it was midfielder Andy Harper who came into the team to replace suspended centre-back Mike O'Shea who scored Saints' first goal inside the first 4O seconds of the match.

Before Preston could recover from this early shock, Saints made it 2-0 in the 14th minute when striker Tony Krslovic nailed the target from 12 metres out.

Fellow-striker Scott Ollerenshaw rattled in goal No 3 less than two minutes later after beating three defenders inside the box.

The Saints' mobile strike-trio of Ollerenshaw, Krslovic and teenage sensation Matthew Bingley ripped Preston's defence of Ilija Taseski, Steve Jackson, Bill Piculovski and George Jolevski apart with their pace and switch play.

Mike Grbevski

Saints' midfield gallantly led by former World Cup centre-back David Ratcliffe repeatedly denied Preston possession with non-stop tackling.

Bingley was unfortunate not to add to the score in the 73rd minute when he streaked away on a 55-metre raid with only goalkeeper Phil Traianedes to beat. Bingley's attempted chip-shot was just deflected by a single touch from the goalkeeper for a corner.

Former St George goal-scoring wizard Dez Marton, in charge of the Saints in Frank Arok's absence with the Socceroos in Newcastle, told ASW: "We thoroughly deserved this victory. Our tactics in the second half after our three quick goals was not to loose and we came out determined to starve them of possession."

Best for the Saints were Ratcliffe, Bingley, Harper and Grbevski whilst for Preston only striker Steve Smith battled alone upfront with poor ball service.

ST GEORGE: Gibson, Green, Moffitt, Koczka (Harmat 82), Grbevski, Harper, Ratcliffe, Pottier, Ollerenshaw, Krslovic, Bingley (Ilic 87).

PRESTON: Traianedes, Taseski, Piculovski, Jackson, Jolevski, Markovac (Momirovski 74), Tasevski, Petrov, Markovski, Spink, Smith.

Referee: P. Speers. Crowd: 2,835.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Who needs to be all that close to the Sydney Football Stadium.

If there is need for people and teams to stay over in Sydney, Valentine Park has motel accommodation, top kitchen facilities, dining room and so on.

And that begs the question — why can't the NSW Federation and the NSL do a deal on use of the motel for teams going to Sydney western suburbs games and staying overnight?

The teams do not have to race back to the city and pay high accommodation rates.

Rest up in Valentine Park comfort.

Costs would be less, and all, including NSW, would benefit.

If the commissioners and the NSL work on cutting wasted expenditure, the game will gain for it.

But the first point to start should be a management survey by Coopers and Lybrand W.D. Scott.

A levy to raise $100,000 for that purpose would have real meaning down the years.

It will be difficult to set the ship on the right course without it, even given the keenness of the commissioners.

NEXT WEEK MARCONI TRIBUTE

Alan Scott of Heidelberg (4) in an airborne battle with Adelaide City striker Joe Mullen at Olympic Sports Field, the result being 2-1 to the home side on July 2. Pic: JANUSZ KAMMA.

Futile JUST draw

BY GREG BLAKE

YOU'VE got to hand it to Melbourne JUST for its efforts down the years.

There's always a touch of the dramatic, the theatrical about JUST as it battles for its NSL life year-in, year-out.

And so it was this season when the JUST faithful ajourned to a dimly-lit, cold and generally unhospitable Schintler Reserve last Wednesday night to see their club's annual battle to stay afloat in a deferred game against Adelaide City.

We all hoped the club would survive, if only because the league desperately needs its perennial easy-beats to maintain the status quo.

This year the must-win match was against an Adelaide City team which probably had better things to do than slog it out mid-week on a dreadfully water-logged Melbourne ground.

Patently a better team in most departments, Adcity led this match after just six minutes as Aurelio Vidmar crashed home Steve Maxwell's cross.

JUST, meanwhile, slipped and slid as home fans howled their disgust and for a fleeting 40 minutes it seemed the struggling home team would see its late-season form desert it.

But the twitching corpse refused to lie down and Adelaide City, as surely as the sun will rise tomorrow, allowed their opponents to battle its way back into the game.

JUST, whose staple diet consists of gritty efforts from the likes of Murphy, Durakovic and Karic, moments of inspiration by Crino and Palatsides and a healthy dose of luck, battled back because of a youngster by the name of Sasha Besvinovski.

While the rest of the clowns bogged down around him Besvinovski bored in, battled tenaciously and eventually scored JUST's equaliser 10 minutes after half-time.

He popped home his second crucial goal in a week when he pushed home a square ball from Palatsides after a bustling run and cross from the left by Drago Deankovic.

MELBOURNE JUST: Nikitovic, Deankovic, Kalogeros (Mitrovski 79), Karic, van-Egmond, Durakovic, Besvinovski, Palatsides, Retre (Lazopoulos 66), Crino, Murphy.

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica, Shillabeer, Tobin, Ivanovic, Flounders, Melta, Santrac, T. Vidmar, Mullen (Dimovski 87), Maxwell, A. Vidmar.

Referee: P. Power. Crowd: 2050.

NSW TOP FOUR

NSW Federation State League First Division is likely to run the Top Four as a condensed series this year.

"The only thing that would make us change our minds is if further delays occurred due to rain," general manager Ian Holmes said.

However all lower divisions will forgo running their play-offs this year.

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National Youth League

Olympic almost home

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL

SYDNEY Olympic, led by five goals from striker Michael Lardis, went back to the top and all but secured the minor premiership with successive drubbings of Adamstown last weekend.

Lardis bagged a hat-trick on Saturday in Olympic's 5-0 win and backed up with two goals last Sunday in the 7-1 defeat of the cellar-dwellers.

OLYMPIC 5 ADAMSTOWN 0

Olympic travelled north for the first of their battles with bottom side Adamstown and wasted no time scoring after just six minutes through Alex Aroujo.

The champions-elect held only this slender lead until the break but fast put the Rosebuds out of the contest with four goals in 23 minutes midway through the second period.

Lardis netted his hat-trick with goals in the 57th, 67th and 77th minutes while Craig Sharpley completed the whitewash in the 80th minute.

ADAMSTOWN: Symes, Milevski (Riley), Wilson, A. Hudson, Richards, C. Hudson, Bell, Ortega, Gilday, Roberts, Page (Jonas).

OLYMPIC: Meier, Triantafylou, Foundas, Scott, Georgopoulos, Sharpley, Eliadis, Oldridge, Aroujo, Lardis, S. Refenes.

OLYMPIC 7 ADAMSTOWN 1

Olympic should have easily reached double figures in their return match with the Rosebuds but had to settle for "only" seven with Lou Triantafilou instrumental in the first half onslaught.

Triantafilou fed Lardis for the first with a through ball for the striker to chest down and volley home from eight metres after 13 minutes.

Sharpley put Triantafilou away on the right in the 20th minute and the fullback's cross was met by Jason Oldridge for his first with a header over the keeper.

Chris Eliadis completed the scoring for the first half with a fine goal after forcing a save from keeper Symes. Eliadis followed in to tuck the rebound away.

Sub Alex Aroujo put Olympic 4-0 ahead in the 67th minute after a mix-up in the defence before Adamstown got some respite when Cameron Hudson netted 10 minutes from time.

Oldridge, Sharpley and Lardis retaliated for the leaders with a goal apiece in the final minutes to complete a dismal weekend for the bottom side.

OLYMPIC: Meier, Triantafilou, Foundas, Scott, Georgopoulos, Spyriadakos, Eliadis (M. Refenes) Sharpley, Lardis, Oldridge, S. Refenes (Aroujo).

ADMASTOWN: Symes, Milevski, Riley, A. Hudson, Richards, C. Hudson, Orton, Wilson, Gilday, Ortega, Bell.

WOLLONGONG 2 APIA 1

The Wolves almost assured that APIA would miss a spot in the finals with a last-gasp winner at Brandon Park last Sunday.

John Ruperto's cross eluded the two Wolves centre backs and Aldo Martincica snuck in behind the defence to score in the 22nd minute.

Martincica's strike was the only real chance in the first period with both goalies well in command around the box.

Ten minutes after the break the Wolves equalised when Robert D'amico slipped the ball through to Danny Petkovic who battled with Gregson for the ball, Petkovic won the race and stuck the ball into the corner wide of the advancing Mikuletic.

The turning point for APIA came in the 75th minute when a poor clearance from Wolves keeper Atsas fell to Nick Restaino who found leading scorer Grant Bard, but Bard with only the keeper to beat missed the target.

Wollongong struck with only three minutes left when John Harrison floated a free-kick into the APIA area and John Danzo outjumped the defence to head home.

WOLLONGONG: Atsas, Gilchrist, Vidal, Harrison, Baggott, D'amico, Reynolds (Srbinovski), Villella, Danzo, Petkovic, Piacentin.

APIA: Mikuletic, Lahanas, Cosentino, Palapanis, Gregson (Nazur), Ruperto, Karavatskis (Reyes), Licastro, Restaino, Bard, Martincica.

SYDNEY CROATIA 3 BLACKTOWN 1

Croatia moved one step closer to a finals place with a solid performance against the under-rated Demons at the Croatian Sports Centre last Sunday.

After a scrappy start, Croatia settled down first after Seal netted the opening goal in the 14th minute when he latched onto a loose ball when Ciantar forced Londos to palm the ball clear.

David Seal set up the second for fellow-striker John Rancic in the 48th minute when he broke clear and fed Rancic who slipped the ball home.

Croatia put the match out of reach for the visitors in the 75th minute when Seal was brought down in the area and Adam Ciantar made no mistake from the spot. Blacktown's consolation came 10 minutes from time when Bill Mannix converted from the spot also.

CROATIA: Kalac (Vuletic), Orlic, Mlinac, Krkovski, B. Milicevic, Pervan, Bojkovski, Ciantar, Seal, Alilovic, Rancic.

NSL YOUTH LEAGUE NORTH

THIS WEEK'S MATCHES

Sat 22 July: Sydney Olympic v Blacktown at Croatian Sports Centre 1pm.
Croatia v Adamstown at Croatian Sports Centre 3pm.
Wollongong v St George TBA
Sun 23 July: Blacktown v Adamstown at Gabbie Stadium.
St George v APIA at St George Stadium 12.15pm.
AIS v St George TBA

Syd Oly	21	14	6	1	56	16	34
Marconi	23	12	8	3	44	20	32
Syd Croatia	23	12	1	10	46	36	25
AIS	21	10	4	7	47	31	24
Wollongong	21	9	3	9	32	33	21
APIA	21	7	6	8	34	43	20
Blacktown	21	8	2	11	40	39	18
St George	19	5	5	9	17	32	15
Adamstown	22	1	1	20	12	78	3

Top Scorers

16 David Seal (Croatia), 14 Kris Trajanovski (AIS), 13 Stan Suman (Blacktown), 11 Greg Dickinson (AIS), 11 Grant Bard (AIS), 11 Danny Petkovic (Wollongong).

REPRESENTATIVE COACHES

SUTHERLAND SHIRE JUNIOR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

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S.S.J.S.F.A.
P.O. Box 188
GYMEA. NSW. 2227

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 7TH AUGUST, 1989.

Macedonia mows down challengers

BY PAUL GOODWIN

N.S.W. 2ND AND 3RD DIVISIONS

SYDNEY Macedonia moved another step closer to winning the Second Division title when they saw off two of their closest challengers over the double-header weekend.

A third game against North Shore United, due to be played last Wednesday, was called off at the last minute, but on current form that could well have gone the same way.

Macedonia got the better of a rugged encounter at Fairy Meadow, Sasha Spiroski finishing off a cross for a 1-0 result on Saturday, and on Sunday Scott Gilbert claimed his first hat-trick for the club in a solid 3-1 win at Dulwich Hill.

Victor Sergio replied late in the game from the penalty spot.

Granville-Chile scraped home 1-0 over Manly, with Dennis Duarte adding to his impressive tally but the next day this side could not find a way past North Shore United 'keeper Steve Hains and the 0-0 result reflected the lack of opportunities in front of both goals.

Fairy Meadow bounced back from their fourth home defeat of the season to complete a double over Yugal, in a 2-0 repeat of the meeting a week earlier.

For Yugal it was a sad and sorry weekend, with injuries to several players and a battling 0-0 draw at Mona Park against Waverley all they had to show for their efforts.

Agenor Muniz displayed all his old magic in settling his team's game with Gladesville on Saturday with a long range freekick which crept under the crossbar, deceiving David Griffiths in flight.

Gladesville-Hornsby ran hard all day and although they were less impressive against Bathurst at Campbell Park the next day, they came away with a 1-0 win, thanks to Chris Butt's tidy finish.

Bathurst '75 showed plenty of ability on both days of the busy weekend, particularly on Sunday, with a missed penalty not helping their cause.

They scored first through Max Simpson on Saturday at Parklands Oval and went to the sheds level 1-1 when Neal Hunter found the net moments before the break.

Neal Hunter (North Shore)

Always a threat, it was not until the 80th minute that the locals hit the lead thanks to Glenn Jeffery and further goals from Graham Walton and an own goal, probably flattered the Sydney side.

Clubs nearer the foot of the table demonstrated how evenly matched teams are this year and what a good competition it would have been if the weather had not taken a such a toll.

Mount Druitt surprised Bankstown at Potts Park on Saturday.

John White and Hughie McElduff provided the goals and a penalty from Davy White was all the locals could manage in a below par performance.

The visitors returned to the winners' list 24 hours later, running out 4-1 winners over Orange, showing a good turn of speed, which yielded two goals for Darren James and one apiece for White and Graeme Poole.

They now feel much more confident about their big day at Potts Park on Saturday when they are determined to show Macedonia a clean pair of heels in the local derby game.

Mount Druitt proved it was no fluke by defeating the competent Manly side 2-0, Wayne Farnsworth and Dennis Kerrigan netting at the Poppondetta Park Number 2 pitch.

The main ground should be back in action this weekend for the important Granville-Chile clash.

★★★

Fairy Meadow 0 Sydney Macedonia 1 (Spiroski), Yugal 0 Waverley 0, North Shore United 4 (Hunter, Jeffery, Walton, Davis o.g.) Bathurst '75 1 (Simpson), Campbelltown Vikings 2 (O'Neill, Preston), Orange-Waratah 1 (D. Sinclair), Dulwich Hill 1 (Muniz), Gladesville-Hornsby 0, Bankstown 1 (D. White (pen), Mount Druitt Town 2 (J. White, McElduff), Granville-Chile 1 (Duarte), Manly-Warringah 0.

Mount Druitt 2 (Farnsworth, D. Kerrigan), Manly-Warringah 0, Gladesville-Hornsby 1 (Butt), Bathurst '75 0, Campbelltown Vikings 1 (O'Neill), Waverley (Berry), Dulwich Hill 1 (Sergio pen), Sydney Macedonia 3 (Gilbert 3), Fairy Meadow 2 (Willis, Beringer) Yugal 0, Granville-Chile 0, North Shore United 0, Bankstown 4 (White, James 2, Poole), Orange-Waratah 1 (D. Sinclair).

THIRD DIVISION

Mixed Success

CENTRAL Coast, sponsored by Harvey Norman Discounts, had mixed success in their double-header last weekend.

The team defeated Concordia 2-1 on Saturday and on Sunday were defeated by Southern Districts in the dying stages of the game by the same score.

The two points gained over this weekend will ensure the side of a Top Four position but will now rule out a No.1 shot.

The Concordia game in particular saw both teams committed to pushing the ball about. Goalscorer for Central Coast were Terry Mason and Derek Caisley.

The Southern Districts game produced good soccer but with the previous day's scores and bruises on their minds the players were not as alert.

Central Coast's goal was scored by U19 player Jason Gribble and this game also saw the maiden first grade game of David Berry.

Other players who performed well over the weekend were Craig Bennett and Kerry Caban.

Games went according to form in the Pepsi Premier League last Sunday. In the match of the day Michael Guest produced one of the best games this season for Woy Woy when he helped his side defeat Turkley Gorokan 1-0 to hold onto second spot.

Other results: The Entrance 1 East Gosford 0, Umina 1 Terrigal 0, Wyong 1 Swansea 1, Southern and Ettalong 7 Wyoming 0.

STATE TABLES

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 1

G'ville Chile	19	10	5	4	33	25	25
Syd. M.	13	11	1	1	32	9	23
Dulwich Hill	14	9	1	4	30	25	19
Fairy Meadow	14	8	2	4	30	10	18
North Shore Utd	13	7	4	2	28	15	18
Manly Warr	16	7	2	7	28	29	16
Gladesville H'by	12	5	5	2	16	13	15
Waverley SC	17	4	5	8	17	35	13
Bankstown	12	5	1	6	25	21	11
SSC Yugal	12	4	3	5	12	13	11
Mount Druitt	12	3	3	6	13	19	9
Orange Waratah	18	3	3	12	23	41	9
Bathurst '75	17	3	2	12	16	35	8
C'belltown Vik'	13	2	3	8	10	23	7

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 2

G'ville Chile	19	10	5	4	29	17	25
Waverley	17	10	1	6	48	28	21
Manly Warr	15	9	3	3	24	12	21
Bathurst '75	17	6	5	6	43	45	17
C'belltown Vik'	12	7	2	3	25	15	16
Dulwich Hill	13	7	2	4	25	21	16
Sydney Mace	13	7	2	4	24	22	16
Orange Waratah	17	5	3	9	24	36	13
Bankstown	12	5	2	5	38	19	12
North Shore Utd	13	4	3	6	15	19	11
Mount Druitt	12	3	4	5	12	13	10
Gladesville H'by	12	2	4	6	10	16	8
SSC Yugal	12	2	3	7	12	29	7
Fairy Meadow	12	1	1	10	11	48	3

STATE LEAGUE 3 GR 1

Rosebery Port	14	13	1	0	45	11	27
Southern Dists	13	10	1	2	27	9	21
Central Coast	11	7	1	3	20	8	15
Port Hacking	9	7	0	2	27	9	14
Rooty Hill W/Utd	11	6	1	4	24	19	13
Canterbury & Dist	16	4	3	9	22	38	11
Mt Pritchard	12	5	0	7	27	24	10
Concordia	11	3	2	6	16	23	8
Uni of NSW	13	2	3	8	15	25	7
Hills United	8	2	1	5	16	12	5
Moorebank L'pool	9	2	1	6	8	23	5
Blacktown United	9	0	0	9	7	53	0

STATE LEAGUE 3 GR 2

Rosebery Port	14	10	3	1	52	13	23
Southern Dist	13	9	1	3	31	18	19
Mt Pritchard	12	7	3	2	42	12	17
Central Coast	11	7	1	3	36	19	15
Uni of NSW	12	5	4	3	20	15	14
Rooty Hill W/Utd	11	5	2	4	30	17	12
Hills United	8	5	1	2	17	7	11
Canterbury & Dist	13	3	5	7	27	32	11
Port Hacking	9	4	0	5	11	25	8
Concordia	9	1	0	8	9	33	2
Moorebank L'pool	9	0	0	9	3	40	2
Blacktown United	9	0	0	9	6	52	0

FEDERATION LEAGUE 4 GR 1

Petersham	11	8	1	2	23	8	17
Hajduk Rangers	9	7	1	1	16	7	15
Spanish Club	11	6	3	2	22	14	15
Transandinos	13	6	3	4	16	14	15
Cyprus United	10	6	1	3	20	8	13
North Ryde RSL	12	6	1	5	28	14	13
Eastwood St And	13	5	2	6	20	24	12
Syd Croatia Jnrs	12	3	3	6	13	22	9
Nineveh Eagles	11	4	0	7	19	25	8
Hawkesbury Dist	10	2	1	7	11	23	5
Padstow Park	7	0	4	3	6	11	4
Fairfield Kiev	9	0	2	7	4	25	2

FEDERATION LEAGUE 4 GR 2

North Ryde RSL	12	8	2	2	20	10	18
Transandinos	13	6	6	1	17	13	18
Cyprus United	10	5	3	2	21	5	13
Hajduk Rangers	9	5	3	1	15	4	13
Eastwood St And	12	4	3	5	25	16	11
Padstow Park	7	4	2	1	12	4	10
Spanish Club	10	4	1	5	17	17	9
Petersham	11	4	1	6	12	18	9
Hawkesbury Dist	10	3	2	5	13	20	8
Nineveh Eagles	11	3	1	7	11	17	7
Syd Croatia Jnrs	12	2	2	8	11	21	6
Fairfield Kiev	9	2	0	7	7	36	4

FEDERATION LEAGUE 5 GR 1

Arncliffe	10	8	0	2	21	10	16
SSC Zagreb	9	6	2	1	29	13	14
Concord	9	7	0	2	20	11	14
Colo Colo	10	5	2	3	22	16	12
Sydney Uni	7	2	2	3	13	11	6
Chile Sports	7	0	4	3	9	18	4
Blacktown Wand	5	1	0	4	6	11	2
Macquarie Uni	5	1	0	4	5	13	2
CSI	5	1	0	5	10	21	2
Sporting Peru	6	0	2	4	10	21	2

FEDERATION LEAGUE 5 GR 2

Colo Colo	10	8	0	2	29	8	16
Arncliffe	10	7	0	3	33	14	14
Concord	9	6	1	2	22	11	13
Sydney Uni	7	6	0	1	25	4	12
SSC Zagreb	8	4	1	3	11	8	9
Blacktown Wand	5	2	1	2	13	10	5
Chile Sports	7	1	0	6	5	32	2
Sporting Peru	6	0	1	5	5	19	1
Macquarie Uni	4	0	0	4	0	7	0
CSI	6	0	0	6	4	34	0

FEDERATION LEAGUE 6 GR 1

Ashour Star	13	7	4	2	26	18	18
Lithgow	14	7	3	4	30	19	17
Belmore	11	7	2	2	36	20	16
Maccabi	11	7	2	2	23	13	16
Alexander	13	5	4	4	33	31	14
GNS Utd	10	6	1	3	24	15	13
Prospect Utd	10	6	1	3	21	15	12
West Dist.	13	6	0	7	22	25	12
Abruzzi	12	2	3	7	13	30	7
Liverpool City	11	2	2	7	14	22	6
Sydney Lebanon	9	2	1	6	25	29	5
Cobreloa	11	0	1	10	17	47	1

FEDERATION LEAGUE 6 GR 2

Alexander	13	9	2	2	59	26	20
Abruzzi	12	9	1	2	33	17	19
GNS Utd	10	8	0	2	32	16	16
Maccabi	11	7	1	3	33	17	15
Belmore	11	6	3	2	21	8	15
Lithgow	14	6	3	5	28	23	15
Prospect Utd	10	5	3	2	14	11	13
Ashour Star	13	3	3	7	33	48	9
Liverpool City	11	2	1	8	18	29	5
West Dist.	13	1	3	9	16	38	5
Cobreloa	9	1	0	8	7	33	2
Sydney Lebanon	7	0	0	7	6	34	0

FEDERATION LEAGUE 7 GR 1

Balmain PCYC	14	10	3	1	56	20	23
Pagewood Bot	12	9	1	2	23	10	19
Lemnos	14	7	3	4	28	16	17
Assyrian	12	5	4	3	21	24	14
Fogolar Fulan	9	3	4	2	20	14	10
A.S. Noantri	10	4	2	4	16	21	10
Luddenham	11	3	3	5	19	21	9
St Josephs	11	3	2	8	25	26	8
Aust. Romanian	12	1	5	6	20	37	7
Liverpool Oly	12	1	3	8	15	36	5
Korean	9	1	2	6	12	30	4

FEDERATION LEAGUE 7 GR 2

Lemnos	14	9	2	3	31	19	20
Pagewood Bot	12	8	2	2	29	10	18
St Josephs	11	6	2	3	31	15	14
Liverpool Oly	12	5	2	5	25	22	12
Luddenham	11	4	4	3	21	18	12
Balmain PCYC	14	4	4	6	20	27	12
Fogolar Fulan	9	5	1	3	18	10	11
A.S. Noantri	10	4	3	3	24	18	11
Assyrian	12	3	1	8	9	28	7
Korean	9	3	0	6	19	26	6
Aust. Romanian	12	1	1	10	10	44	0

PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALL NSL TEAMS AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL AT LEADING NEWSAGENTS NOW

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NSW looks for repeat in Nationals

BY IAN MARRIOTT

THE three NSW state team coaches have announced their squads to compete in this year's under 13, 14 and 15 years National championships.

Due to the fact that all three titles were held in Sydney last year, this season they will all be played interstate, with the under 13s travelling to Coffs Harbour, under 14s to Bundaberg and the under 15s all the way to Perth.

During the next couple of months, each of the teams will be training at Solander Park in a bid to uphold the great tradition of recent years whereby NSW has won every National Championship in these age groups.

NSW Under 13: Scott Henderson, Luke Metcalfe, Darren McDonald, Klute Smith, Ignazio Pollari (Sutherland), Richard Plesa, Chad Gibson (St George), Flavio Novaro, Daniel Chakarovski, Drew Cremin, Leonardo Mauceri (APIA), Mark Leung, Andrew Seniuk, Scott Lewis (Blacktown City), Leslie Pogliacomi (Marconi), Ljupco Trajcevski (Sydney Olympic).

Train-On Players: David Knights (Blacktown City), Bobby Brodie (Sth Branch), Troy Bellamy (Nthn Branch).

Manager: Vince Balzan.

Coach: Greg Ankudinoff.

Trainer: Efran Bungaric.

NSW Under 14: Lorenzo Campagna (Gladesville-Hornsby), Cristian Bertos, David Dunseath, Tony Josevski, Fabio Macolino, Dominic Usalj (St George), David Thomas, (Sutherland), Shane Borg, Paul Dee (Sydney Olympic), James Bourke, Darren Iocca, Eduardo Pena, Jason Tigani (Marconi), Lupo DiBlasto (Avala), Mario Jerman (Syd Croatia), Sonar Omac (Melita).

Train-On Players: Alvin Ceccoli (APIA), Mathew Maric (Syd Croatia), Jamie Whitton (Melita).

Manager: Bill McIlveen.

Coach: Wayne Simpson.

Trainer: Lyn Gresham.

NSW Under 15: Chris Miljak, Peter Tsekenis, Darren Elkin (St George), Shane West (Bathurst), Derek Poimer (Kuring-gai), Godwin Spiteri, Alen Stajcic, Jonathan Grima (Melita), Andrew Crews, Daniel Abercrombie (Blacktown City), Frank Serratore (Sydney Olympic), Manuel Pavlidis (APIA), Ante Moric, Jorge Vasquez, Ante Milicic, John Perosh (Syd Croatia).

Train-On Players: Glenn Sprod, Andrew Riches (St George).

Manager: John Hedison.

Coach: John Haines.

Trainer: Frank Wilson.

Learn from Videos

ASW on April 26 included a complete list and an order form from the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation of various coaching and feature videos available for sale.

Secure copies for your club or as ideal presents.

They are priced to sell at $24 to $39.

The World's greatest goals from Charlton to Maradona

THE World Cup — every footballer's dream is to play for their country in this — the world's greatest football tournament.

"The World's Greatest Goals" brings you the highlights of the World Cup from 1966 to 1986 — the saves, the fouls, the unique atmosphere and — the goals — compiled from the official films of the World Cup the programme is produced by the makers of "Golé" and "Hero".

See the greatest players from the last 20 years in action. 141 non-stop goals from Charlton, Hurst, Pele, Cruyff, Eusebio, Muller, Moore, Kempes, Rossi, Platini, Maradona and more!

Narrator John Woodvine, Producer Michele Miller, Director Anthony Harrild, Music Steve Parsons, Music Publisher Filmtrax.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY

Junior boost at Youth Expo

THE NSWASF will be promoting Soccer at The Young Australia Expo which will be taking place at the Royal Agricultural Showgrounds from Tuesday August 1 to Saturday 5 in the Hall of Industries.

The Amateur Soccer Federation will be manning a stand which will feature posters, football strips, pamphlets, and general promotional material.

The Australian Soccer Federation are to be congratulated on their support of this venture. They have supplied the NSWASF with soccer promotional material, which will be distributed throughout EXPO.

The purpose of The Young Australia Expo is to provide the young people of Australia with information aimed at enabling them to cope more readily with the demands of their adult lives, particularly in terms of career planning, financial management, electoral responsibility, health and leisure.

The first Australia Expo, a Forum Organization project, was held in Melbourne in September 1988 and was hailed as an outstanding success.

Backed by The State Bank of Victoria, Rotary International, The Age and Radio 3XY, and with a seminar programem devised by the Career Education Association of Victoria, it attracted visitors from all over the state, as well as extensive publcity in both print and electronic media.

Forum Organization is committed to the concept of an annual event nationally for the young people of Australia, their parents and teachers.

The aim is to establish a close-working relationship with those government departments responsible for preparing young people for adulthood, as well as with the corporate and education sectors in all states.

It believes that the mix of exhibition, demonstration, seminar and entertainment programmes will provide an exciting and stimulating environment in which young people can be given information and advice on a wide range of issues.

The Young Australia Expo in NSW will be of five days' duration and will take the form of a large exhibition and series of related events including lectures, audio-visual presentations, training and practical demonstrations.

The target audience is the teenager nearing the end of his or her secondary education, as well as tertiary students.

However, the displays, activities and events will provide information of interest to a far wider age group — 12-21 years.

As a reminder, it runs from Tuesday, August 1, to Saturday, August 5, 1989 at the Royal Agricultural Society Sydney Showground Complex, Paddington.

Koczka, Rennie join Umbro

THE UMBRO Company reports that there has been a massive increase in sales of quality footballs over the past 12 months.

DOUG RENNIE

Managing director Steve Treloar indicated that the demand for balls had been boosted by more than 92% from the 1988 season.

According to Treloar, the dramatic increase is due to a number of reasons, including companies' involvement with NSW Amateur Soccer Federation licensing, competitive prices, incentive arrangements with retail outlets and the various UMBRO promotions which are carried out.

The Austrlaian UMBRO footballs are regarded as being among the best in the world, and this is due to a trip which Treloar undertook three years ago when he visited Pakistan to learn how the various other manufacturers make their products.

The UMBRO ball was then developed and is a combination of many of the other manufacturers' best features.

Treloar spent three weeks in Pakistan, and now he is being sought for guidance by many other countries regarding the manufacture of quality Soccer balls.

ANDY KOCZKA

Andy Koczka, National Soccer League player with St George and current Socceroo, is the latest to join the UMBRO stable and he will be looking to boost sales even further in the Sydney, St George and Sutherland areas in his role as area manager.

Another well-known Soccer personality to join UMBRO is referees' inspector Doug Rennie, who is the new sales and promotions manager.

ROBERTSON CUP: Semi-finals 30th July: Dundas United v Engadine Eagles Curtis Oval 2.30pm, West Pennant Hills v Cronulla Seagulls Campbell Park 2.30pm.

AMATEUR CUP: Quarter-finals 30th July: Puglia v West Pymble, Syvania Hts v Yoogali (Riverina), Hurstville RSL 'A' v Carlton Rovers, Connells Pt v Hanwood (Riverina), ground to be advised.

UMBRO YOUTH LEAGUE

ROUND 23
SATURDAY JULY 15
DIVISION 1

			U13	U14	U15	U17
Illawarra	v	Canterbury	4-1	2-0	1-2	1-4
Nepean	v	Sutherland	1-2	1-1	0-1	0-0
Cant/M'ville	v	Melita	0-0	0-1	1-1	2-2
Bankstown	v	Croatia	1-3	1-0	1-2	1-9
Ku-ring-gai	v	Sydney Olympic	0-1	0-7	0-2	1-3
Blacktown City	v	St George	1-0	1-3	2-0	1-1
APIA	v	Marconi	1-1	0-2	1-2	2-1

DIVISION 2
SATURDAY JULY 15 ROUND 19

Pen/Uruguay	v	Gladesville	w/o	w/o	w/o	w/o
Blacktown	v	Polonia	0-0	0-3	0-3	1-0
Yugal	v	Warringah	0-8	4-4	2-2	1-1
Rockdale	v	Avala	0-3	1-2	0-1	NP
Central Coast	v	Macarthur	0-5	3-2	0-3	NP
Sth Districts	v	Manly Warringah	1-0	1-1	0-0	2-2
Canterbury	v	Syd Croatia	0-2	1-3	0-7	0-9
Bankstown	v	Nepean	0-2	1-3	1-2	0-2
Ku-ring-gai	v	Illawarra	0-3	0-4	0-1	W/F
Sydney Olympic	v	Bankstown City	1-0	3-3	0-0	1-0
Melita	v	St George	1-2	2-0	3-0	0-4
St George	v	Melita	7-0	1-1	1-1	2-2
Cent. Coast	v	Manly	1-0	2-1	1-1	3-3
Polonia	v	Gladesville	0-3	0-0	0-0	1-1
Yugal	v	Blacktown	0-4	1-0	1-0	1-3
Warringah	v	Avala	4-0	0-0	2-1	0-0
Pen/Uruguay	v	Rockdale	3-0	0-4	2-2	NP

ROUND 11
SUNDAY JULY 16

Sthn & Eastern	v	Bankstown	1-1	1-4
Canterbury	v	St George	5-0	0-3
Sthn Districts	v	Sutherland	2-2	2-3
Granville	v	Gladesville	1-1	2-0
Ku-ring-gai	v	Central Coast	0-0	1-0
Sthn Branch	v	Macarthur	1-1	1-0
Illawarra	v	Nepean	1-2	0-3
Blacktown	v	Manly	3-1	3-1

Facchetti serves Canley Vale club

BY RON HUGHES

ENNIO FACCHETTI, now playing in his 25th continuous year with Canley Heights Soccer Club, began his service in 1965 as an under 7 player.

He has played in six premiership-winning teams and several successful knock-out cup senior teams.

Currently he is playing in Canley Heights Premier League first grade team.

Purely a local boy, Ennio has been happily married for 12 years to his lovely wife Mary-Louise and they have three children, two pretty daughters, Christiana (11) and Jenny (9), along with their nine- month old brother Luke.

He enjoys involving himself with the junior sides at Canley Heights, in recent years managing a successful junior team to championships in the U10, U11 and U12 age groups.

Canley Heights Soccer Club, celebrating its 43rd year since inauguration in 1946, boasts 15 junior and four senior teams in the current season with Southern Districts Soccer Football Association.

Catering for both sexes, they have an U12 girls, U16 girls and an All Age ladies' team included in their numbers.

Canley Heights has a record of long-serving players with another half-dozen nearing the 20-year mark.

For 35 years their home ground has been King Park, Humphries Road, Wakely.

Enquiries regarding Canley Heights Soccer Club can be made through the secretary, Phil Konemann on 604-7331.

Reds veto transfers

FA Cup holders Liverpool have rejected bids totalling more than $14 million for their three England internationals.

The club turned down an offer of $10 million from French champion Marseille for forwards Peter Beardsley and John Barnes, and one of more than $4 million for midfielder Steve McMahon from Italian side Sampdoria.

PETER BEARDSLEY: won't be joining England team-mate in France.

That will disappoint Sampdoria's city rivals Genoa and Arsenal, as Genoa are reported to be on the point of offering $5 million for McMahon, while the English champions are said to be keen on Beardsley.

Nottingham Forest will give similar answers to Coventry, which has bid $1 million for winger Franz Carr, and Luton, who want centre-half Colin Foster.

"Nobody is going out, not Colin Foster, nor Franz Carr, and nobody is coming in at the moment either," said Forest manager Brian Clough, who has already lost England midfielder Neil Webb to Manchester United.

Luton sees Foster as the replacement for namesake Steve, who has been transfer-listed at $350,000 and has had talks with Oxford.

Second Division rival Leicester are also interested in the defender.

If Luton are unsuccessful in their chase for Colin Foster, the club are expected to try to re-sign Northern Ireland defender Mal Donaghy from Manchester United.

He is now surplus to requirements, with Swedish international Glenn Hysen having agreed to quit Italian side Fiorentina for Old Trafford.

United are also after unsettled West Ham duo Paul Ince and Mark Ward, while neighbour Manchester City are favourites to land striker Gary Penrice, on offer at $1 million at Third Division Bristol Rovers.

FA Cup is for sale!

THE English FA Cup, soccer's oldest club tournament, has been put up for sale at a staggering $35 million.

The Football Association wants a suitable company to put up the record sum to help League clubs meet massive financial commitments in the wake of the Hillsborough tragedy.

Millions will have to be spent on ground improvements after the death of 95 Liverpool fans at last season's FA Cup semi-final, with a significant trend towards more seating.

The FA will be asking for $4.5 million a year straight sponsorship for five years on top of a loan of $31 million that would be repaid at the end of that period.

FA chief executive Graham Kelly explained that it would help ease the strain on clubs' coffers and open the way for England to once again stage major events like the World Cup.

"We should look for an extraordinarily good offer, something that would attract the attention of everybody and win the support of the FA Council," he added.

"That would result in improvements being made to grounds, providing the nucleus of all-seater stadia to enable us to stage major international events like the European Championship and World Cup."

However, Kelly, conscious of the need to find the right name to go on the Cup, warned: "Whether it comes off is in the lap of the gods at the moment."

Two years ago Australia's Fosters approached the FA, asking to sponsor the competition, but talks collapsed because their offer fell well short.

Instant millionaire Chris Waddle in action against Scotland at Glasgow this year.

Nine-million dollar man

ENGLAND winger Chris Waddle played down his massive $9 million transfer fee as he prepared to complete his record-breaking move to French champions Olympique Marseille from Tottenham.

The 28-year-old striker is looking forward to a move that will make him one of the most expensive players in the world.

"The fee has nothing to do with me," said the one-time sausage factory worker, who is expected to play his first game for Marseille next weekend against Lyon when the French season kicks off.

Waddle is unworried by the lack of success of other British players who have gone abroad, such as former Tottenham teammate Clive Allen, who returned to England and Manchester City this week after an unhappy spell at Boardeaux.

Waddle has been in close contact with former Spurs colleague and friend Glenn Hoddle, who has had a successful time in French football at Monaco.

Dennis Wise, Wimbledon's diminutive winger, is being lined up by Tottenham to replace Waddle.

Spurs are reported to already have made a $3 million bid for a player whose crossing ability comes the nearest to matching Waddle's.

The London club's other targets in its expected spending spree are Coventry midfielder Steve Sedgley, West Ham playmaker Paul Ince, winger Mark Ward and left back Julian Dicks, and Aberdeen right back Stuart McKimmie.

Macari for West Ham

LOU Macari has quit Swindon Town to take charge of English Second Division rivals West Ham.

The 40-year-old former Scottish international replaces John Lyall, who was sacked last month after the club's relegation from the First Division.

Macari beat off challenges from Queen's Park Rangers assistant manager Peter Shreeves and members of the Hammers' coaching staff to become only the London club's fifth boss since 1946.

The ex-Manchester United star faces an immediate crisis, with midfielder Alan Dickens having left Upton Park for Chelsea and playmaker Paul Ince, winger Mark Ward and Alvin Martin keen on quitting the Hammers as well.

Rangers snare "Mo"

GLASGOW Rangers shocked the Scottish soccer world by signing Scotland striker Mo Johnston less than two months after he agreed to join arch-rivals Celtic.

He will become the first big-name Catholic to play for Rangers.

The club has been accused in the past of only signing Protestants because their large following would not accept a Catholic player.

Johnston, 26, was due to join Celtic from Nantes, of France, next season for $2.5 million but the deal collapsed because of contract difficulties.

The Rangers deal was is to be in the region of $3 million.

Rangers manager Graeme Souness said the fans had stood by the club from day one and had now been rewarded with the purchase of the best centre forwards in British football.

His association with Celtic, for whom he played several years ago, lasted just 51 days before the club pulled out of the deal.

The signing is an embarrassment to Celtic who paraded Johnston before the fans during their Scottish Cup final with Rangers.

MO JOHNSTON

"War" averted

CHAIRMEN of the 20 English First Division clubs averted another war over the distribution of money from the $92 million agreement with Independent Television.

They agreed to a compromise honouring the existing contract, which will provide clubs with a flat fee of $417,100 each, plus a Retail Price Index figure amounting to $918,000.

The extra money will be shared among clubs not having a live televised home game or a share in the away fee of a televised game.

Newly-promoted Chelsea and Crystal Palace, who tabled amendments for a flat rate of $500,000 with the rest of the television money divided on the final league positions, dropped their proposals.

COPA AMERICA

Brazilians break a forty-year drought

BY MARIO ETCHART

MIGHTY Brazil won the Copa America for the first time in 40 years after defeating Uruguay 1-0 in the last game of the four-nation final round-robin between the host nation, Uruguay, Argentina and Paraguay.

The four teams qualified from the preliminary round.

But for the Brazilians, the victory had greater significance.

Thirty nine years ago, at the same venue — the Maracana Stadium — in front of 195,000 spectators, the biggest crowd-ever for a sporting event, the Uruguayans beat them sensationally 2-1 in the final match of the fourth World Cup to take out the title.

Last Sunday's triumph, this time in front of a crowd of 115,000, was sweet revenge.

The only goal of the game was scored by Dutch-based striker Romario five minutes into the second half.

Brazil controlled the first 45 minutes of the final, but lacked depth up front against a Uruguayan defence which didn't allow the Brazilian strikers much space.

ROMARIO: his goals in the final round-robin paved the way for Brazil's Copa America win.

The Uruguayan attack failed to reproduce its previous form against Argentina and Paraguay.

Ruben Sosa and Enzo Francescoli were well checked by the Brazilian defenders.

The second half started slowly, but in the fifth minute Brazilian defender Mazinho, after a fast run on the left flank, crossed the ball to the box where Romario, with a powerful header, beat goalkeeper Zeoli.

Uruguay reacted immediately, looking for the equaliser, but in doing so exposed themselves to Brazilian counter-attacks.

Romario, Bebeto and Silas created several chances but goalkeeper Zeoli stood firm.

Desperation took its toll in the Uruguayan camp and coach Tavarez made two replacements midway through the second half.

Correa came on for Ostolaza and Da Silva for Ruben Paz in a bid to add more striking power.

But the former title holders failed to capitalise on their few chances in front of the Brazilian goal.

Chilean referee Hernan Silva showed yellow cards to Ostolaza of Uruguay and Branco and Ricardo of Brazil.

BRAZIL: Taffarel, Mazinho, Mauro, Galvao, Aldair, Ricardo, Branco, Dunga, Silas (Alemao), Valdo (Josimar), Bebeto, Romario.

URUGUAY: Zeoli, Herrera, Gutierrez, De Leon, Dominguez, Perdomo, Ostolaza (Correa), Paz (Da Silva), Alzamendi, Francescoli, Sosa.

Argentina third

In the earlier final round-robin games Brazil, with goals from Bebeto and Romario, defeated Argentina 2-0 and later beat Paraguay 3-0 with Bebeto (twice), and Romario scoring again.

Uruguay also defeated Argentina 2-0 with two goals from Ruben Sosa, and Paraguay, 3-0.

Francescoli, Alzamendi and Paz scored for the Uruguayans in that game.

Argentina finished third after a 0-0 draw with Paraguay.

Both teams collected only one point, but the world champions took third spot because of better goal-difference.

In the match between Argentina and Paraguay, Argentine coach Carlos Bilardo left Diego Maradona out of the team.

The star player, who had a very average performance in the Copa America and only showed glimpses of his class, wasn't even on the reserve bench.

Final Standings

Brazil	3	3	0	0	6	0	6
Uruguay	3	2	0	1	5	1	4
Argentina	3	0	1	2	0	4	1
Paraguay	3	0	1	2	0	6	1

CARLOS BILARDO

World Wide

- **A Soviet XI drew 3-3 with a "world" team in Oleg Blokhin's testimonial match in Kiev in front of 100,000 spectators. The Dynamo Kiev veteran played in the world side.**
- Andrej Strejlau, 49, is the new coach of the ailing Polish national team. He replaces Wojciech Lazarek, who was sacked after Poland's 3-0 World Cup defeat against England.

CHINA LEADS

CHINA beat Iran 2-0 in Shenyang to take the lead in Asia's World Cup qualifying Group 5.

China now have 8 points, like Iran, but have a better goal-difference and a game in hand.

The teams meet again, in Tehran, this weekend, and China plays Thailand on July 29.

The group winner will joion Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, North Korea and the United Arab Emirates in a round-robin tournament at a neutral venue later this year from which two countries will qualify for Italy.

— LOU GAUTIER

FULL EURO CUP DRAWS NEXT WEEK

AS Roma hit hard as violence spreads

ITALIAN First Division club AS Roma were banned from using their home ground for three league matches after crowd trouble halted their UEFA Cup play-off match against Fiorentina.

The penalty imposed by a league disciplinary tribunal was unusually severe and appeared to reflect a get-tough approach to mounting soccer-related violence in Italy.

The referee in the match in Perugia had to halt play for two minutes while riot police restored order among missile-throwing Roma fans.

Fiorentina beat Roma 1-0 in the game, a play-off for a place in next season's UEFA Cup competition.

Two Fiorentina players, the referee and a policeman were hit by a missiles, which the tribunal said included stones, coins and plastic bottles.

The tribunal also fined Roma captain Giuseppe Giannini $2,000 and suspended him and Fiorentina's Enrico Cucchi for one match.

Giannini was sent off and Cucchi was booked during the game.

The Roma ground ban will come into effect during the 1989-90 season, which begins on August 27.

Meanwhile, the head of Italy's referees accused players of acting like hooligans and demanded tougher sanctions to stamp out violence on the pitch.

Cesare Gussoni, head of the national referees' commission, said the past season had been played in a "climate of war" that had spread from the terraces to the turf.

He was speaking to the GAZETTA DELLO SPORT after widespread condemnation in Italy of the Italian Cup final, which became a battle of fouls between UEFA Cup winner Napoli and losing European Cup Winners' Cup finalist Sampdoria.

"Napoli-Sampdoria set the seal on a season lived in a climate of war," Gussoni said.

"Acts of hooliganism aren't just occurring outside the stadiums and on the terraces but are now spreading dangerously to the people on the pitch.

"It is right to demand far more severe sanctions."

Gussoni proposed a new-style watchdog body that would bring disciplinary action against players, team officials and referees who misbehaved.

Sampdoria, 1-0 down after the June 7 first leg, swept Napoli aside 4-0 in the second leg to retain the Italian Cup to howls of disgust by the media after a match marred by two expulsions and 50 fouls.

Many commentators said the on-pitch incidents would hurt the campaign to stem mounting violence among Italian fans after a season shaken by the deaths.

Singapore boom

AN average attendance of 851 might not sould like anything to get excited about but it represents a significant increase for the Singapore Premier League.

The seven — club, 42 match league totalled 35,756 spectators, an increase of over a hundred per match on last year's figures.

This despite entrance fees doubling from one, to two dollars a game.

The reason for this mini boom has been put down to the presence of foreign players, with eight Europeans appearing in the league this season.

Balestier had three Yugoslav players to help them to the title but they could not prevent Jurong Town taking the two major cup competitions.

Geyland International, double winners last year when they pioneered the signing of European players, still finished third in the attendance figures, despite failing to take a major trophy.

Balestier United's Boris Lucic, a 24-year-old who was on the books of Hadjuk Split, was the most successful of the foreign stars.

One local player in the news is Jurong's talented striker Tokijan.

He had a good season, capping it with two goals in the President's Cup final win over Police.

Now his clubs sponsors, Jebsen and Jessen, want to send him for a month's trial in Denmark.

ISRAEL THREAT

ORGANISERS of Israel's Maccabiah Games, known as the "Jewish Olympics", said world soccer officials had pressed them not to let South African soccer players take part.

South Africans were due to take part in soccer and other events as member of squads called "the rest of the world" in an apparent bid by Israel to avoid world criticism.

Maccabiah officials declined to discuss the number of South African athletes taking part in the 13th Games, but Israeli newspapers reported as many as 250 sportsmen and escorts were involved.

FIFA, which has barred South Africa from international competition because of its racial policies, asked organisers in a telegram not to let the South Africans play.

Israel risks disqualification from FIFA competition worldwide if it fails to abide by international regulations.

DOMINIQUE ROCHETEAU: retired at age 32 after an illustrious career with the French national team

Ubaldo Fillol rises to the occasion against River Plate in an Argentine league match.

Fillol still going strong

ARGENTINA's former international and World Cup goalkeeper, Ubaldo Fillol, has celebrated 20 years in the First Division and says he wants to play for at least another season.

Fillol, who was 39 on July 18, with 542 First Division games in Argentina to his credit, made his debut for Quilmes on May 1, 1969 and later played for Racing Club (with whom he is back now), River Plate and Argentinos Juniors in Argentina and Brazil's Flamengo and Spain's Atletico Madrid abroad.

Fillol won the World Cup with Argentina in 1978 and altogether gained 53 caps apart from winning seven league titles with River Plate and the South American Super Cup with Racing Club last year.

Statistics show Fillol as the top goalkeeper in domestic soccer among those with over 300 games in a period of not less than 10 years.

Fillol, in 542 games, was beaten 554 times for an average of 1.02 goals per game.

Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER

- **Francisco Maturana has resigned as coach of Libertadores Cup winners Atletico Nacional Medellin to concentrate as coach of the Colombian national team.**
- OFI of Crete (Greece) beat Radnicki of Yugoslavia 3-1 in the final of the Balkans Cup at Serres.
- **Alan Harris is the new coach of Espanol Barcelona. Harris last season was Terry Venables' assistant at Tottenham.**
- Former Dutch international Barry Hulshoff will coach Belgian First Division side Lierse next season.
- **Martin Dahlin, Malmo FF's Swedish international striker, is out of action for at least six months. He broke his right leg in a league match against Vastra Frolunda. Dahlin won his first cap for Sweden after touring Australia with his club in February.**
- Borussia Dortmund won their first trophy in 25 years when they beat Werder Bremen 4-1 in the final of the West German Cup.
- **Veteran Spanish goalkeeper Luis Arconada has retired. The 35-year-old Basque has played 68 times for Spain and has only turned out for one club — Real Sociedad, of San Sebastian — in his 14-year career.**
- The 1989 Rio de Janeiro title has been won by Botafogo, who defeated Flamengo 1-0 in the play-off in front of 150,000 spectators at the Maracana Stadium. Mauricio scored the championship-clinching goal in the 57th minute.
- **Classy veteran French defender Patrick Battiston has signed for another year with Monaco but will retire at the end of the 1989/90 season.**
- Omar Pastoriza has resigned as coach of Argentina's Boca Juniors. He is likely to be replaced by Yudica.
- **Berne's venerable Wankdorf Stadium, venue for the 1954 World Cup final and last month's European Cup-Winners' Cup final between Barcelona and Sampdoria, is being renovated. When work is completed, all 50,000 seats will be under cover.**
- Two spectators were killed during a stampede at the recent World Cup qualifier in Monrovia between Liberia and Malawi.
- **Another top West German coach has gone to Turkey. Jurgen Sundermann will be in charge of Trabzonspor next season.**
- Belgium defeated Canada 2-0 in Ottawa. The Canadian national team will play four games in Europe in August.
- **Ossie Ardiles is now in the United States. The 35-year-old Argentine will play for Fort Lauderdale and also coach the club's juniors.**
- Hungarian international goalkeeper Jozsef Gaspar, 33, has been transferred by MTK to Belgium's RWD Molenbeek, relegated to the Second Division this season.
- **Beira Mar, who finished in 14th place in the recently concluded Portuguese championship, won both matches in a short tour of the USA. They defeated a Newark, New Jersey, selection 1-0 and a semi-professional New York club side 8-1.**
- West Germany's Bayer Leverkrusen have asked Hibernians about the availability of goalie Andy Goram, but the club says he will stay with them.
- **Two key members of France's winning team of the mid-80s, Dominique Rocheteau and Maxime Bossis, have retired.**
- Swedish striker Johnny Eckstrom and West German defender Norbert Nachtweih have joined French club Cannes.
- **Ace French fullback Manuel Amoros is the $4 million target of Italian club Fiorentina.**
- **Lucerne became Swiss champions for the first time in their 88-year history.**
- In West Germany, Bayern Munich won yet another league title while Real Madrid won their fourth Spanish championship in a row.
- **Omonia Nicosia won the Cypriot title for the eleventh time. AEL, from Limassol, took out the Cup.**
- Hamrun Spartans beat Floriana 1-0 to win the final of the Maltese Cup.
- **Mimis Karapialis has renewed his contract with Panathinaikos. He has signed a three-year deal worth $1 million.**
- Barazilian ace Didi, a hero of Brazil's 1958 World Cup triumph, is the new coach of Rio club Bangu.
- **Udo Lattek, Bayern Munich's successful coach of the 1970s, will coach crack Turkish club Galatasaray next season. He hopes to lure West German international striker Pierre Littbarski to the club.**

A morose George Koskotas ponders his future behind bars.

Was Olympiakos chief involved?

RUNAWAY banker George Koskotas, former president of Olympiakos, has claimed from jail in the United States that he escaped from Greece last November with the help of Argyris Saliarelis, the current president of the Piraeus giants.

He said Saliarelis threatened to throw him overboard his private yacht unless he signed over control of Olympiakos and the Athens daily newspaper, VRADYNI.

Koskotas said Saliarelis got what he wanted and then lent him his private jet to fly from Greece with the fraud squad in hot pursuit.

Koskotas, controversial banker-publisher, is awaiting extradition proceedings in the US.

He has been charged with embezzling $270 million from the privately-owned Bank of Crete in what has been described as the biggest financial scandal ever to upset Greek business and political life.

Saliarelis, who was held in jail in November on charges of having helped Koskotas escape and who was allowed out on bail three months ago, has denied any dealings with Koskotas.

Saliarelis claims his pilots stole his plane after being bribed by Koskotas.

SLOVAN IS BACK

AN old name is back in soccer circulation in Czechoslovakia: Slovan Bratislava, who ended a lean decade by winning both the Slovak and then the Czechoslovak cups.

A weakish squad had looked likely to struggle, but sixth place in the league and the cup successes mean a return to the Cup-winners' Cup (which they won in 1969) which could not have been expected.

Slavia have again missed out, which will not help gates in the south of Prague, but Bohemians can breathe again after relegation by disciplinary order appeared on the cards.

Inquiries into payment irregularities continue but at least top flight status has been maintained for the present.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL NOW AT LEADING NEWSAGENTS

Cranky Costa Ricans

COSTA Rica players were unhappy about the firing of their Uruguayan coach Gustavo De Simone.

He was sacked a few days after the team lost 1-0 in Guatemala in the opening match of the World Cup North/Central American and Caribbean zone final round.

Replacing him is Spaniard Antonio Moyano, who had been in charge of champion club Herediano.

Mayano immediately dismissed five players from the squad, including team captain Alexander Guimaraes, a naturalised Brazilian, and brought in seven new players, including three from his club.

Under Moyano, Costa Rica have won three qualifiers — 2-1 against Guatemala and 1-0 v USA, both at home, and 4-2 versus El Salvador away — and now sit comfortably on top of their group.

The final game of the group between El Salvador and Guatemala, is scheduled for November 26 — the very last qualifier of any of the world-wide groups.